OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Jan. 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 11

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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STIGLER, OK 74462

Berryhill passes at 110

• *Espoke eteseketv*: the last handshake

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — Martha Berryhill, 110, entered into eternal rest on Saturday, Dec. 18, 2010. She was born July 12, 1900, in Okmulgee, Okla., (Indian Territory) to Rev. Harrison Logan Berryhill and Bettie Burgess Berryhill. She was a resident of Okmulgee all of her life.

Martha was the last remaining original allottee of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation listed on the Dawes Rolls.

During the childhood of Martha, she attended the following schools; Grovania Day School, Nuyaka Indian Mission, Orphan's Home in Okmulgee, Muskogee Catholic School and Eufaula Boarding School.

Martha married John Parker Haynes and had four children, a deceased son Joseph Haynes and three daughters Berrie Haynes, deceased an unnamed deceased baby daughter, and Ruby Haynes Mauk, were born in this union.

SEE JEWEL - A5

> *"Someday I will be able to tell my grandchildren that I had the pleasure of knowing Martha. I will tell them she was a proud Creek woman, one who totally trusted and praised her Lord. She can never be replaced; there will never be another."*
>
> — A.D. Ellis, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief

Principal Chief clarifies tribal resolutions

Media Release
Office of the Principal Chief

OKMULGEE — Recently, the National Council passed National Council Resolutions purporting to "not recognize" the current District Court Judge and Acting Attorney General. A National Council Resolution is only an expression of the opinion of the National Council, not of the Nation as a whole. Only a properly enacted Tribal Resolution, passed by the National Council and signed by the Principal Chief expresses the policy of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as set forth in Article VI § 6 of the Constitution.

The current District Judge, who has served for the past 25 years, was held over by an Administrative Order of the Supreme Court dated July 30, 2010. The District Judge will continue to serve until the Supreme Court determines otherwise.

SEE RELEASE - A6

Thlopthlocco officer elections set for Jan. 29

Media Release
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

OKEMAH — The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town will conduct officer elections on Jan. 29, 2011. Registration is from 8 a.m.-10 a.m. (only members will be admitted in the building on election day).

A forum will be held at the county barn in Okemah on Jan. 8, 2011 from 9 a.m.-noon. All tribal members are encouraged to attend on these dates.

The election will be held at the Okfuskee County Fair Barn, Hwy. 62, Okemah, Okla. Elections will begin promptly at 10:15 a.m. Voting will be by standing vote as specified in the tribal town constitution. Photo ID is required. Voters must be 21 years of age by Jan. 29, 2011 in order to vote.

For more information, please call (918) 560-6108.

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Lowe wins by listening to Creek Nation Radio News Program

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 •

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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letter to the Editor

Sheriff thanks Lighthorse for donated patrol cars

MUSKOGEE — I am Harley J. Seabolt, Captain of the Muskogee County Sheriff's Patrol.

I maintain an average of 35 CLEET certified reserve officers; we support several school systems with their sporting events and functions throughout the county. We also patrol several townships and assist with their community events in the county. We contribute multiple volunteer hours and are delighted to do so.

The Muskogee County Sheriff's Patrol and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police have a tremendous working relationship, we know that anytime we need them they are there for us and we will always be there for them.

Somewhere between six and seven months ago, I phoned Chief Shackleford; I had heard that he might have some surplus vehicles for sale or to grant to another agency. Chief Shackleford informed me he had already dispensed his available vehicles.

What I did not count on was that Chief Shackleford stated to me, (paraphrased of course) "I'm not sure when I will have anymore vehicles, but when I do, I will call you."

I never had any more contact with Chief Shackleford, nor did I attempt to make any contact.

Then to my complete surprise; Chief Shackleford phoned me and notified me that he, the Nation, and the Lighthorse Police had two cars for the Sheriff's Patrol. We made arrangements for the pickup and transfer. Much to my delight, when we arrived to pick the two cars, I was completely stunned. As we all know, with a Reserve Unit, a car is a car and we use them no matter what. But not that day. I received two outstanding vehicles; in fact they are the best two cars in the Sheriff's Patrol fleet. I am so very thankful and my Patrol is so very thankful. Words alone cannot describe how it makes us feel to have these two amazing vehicles.

So very much appreciation to the Nation, the Nation Council, the Lighthorse Police, and to Chief Shackleford who is truly 'a man of his word!'

- Capt. Harley J. Seabolt
Muskogee County Sheriff's Patrol

District Court filings for Oct. 2010

The District Court filings from Oct. 1, 2010 through Oct. 31, 2010 are as follows (continued from Nov.1 edition):

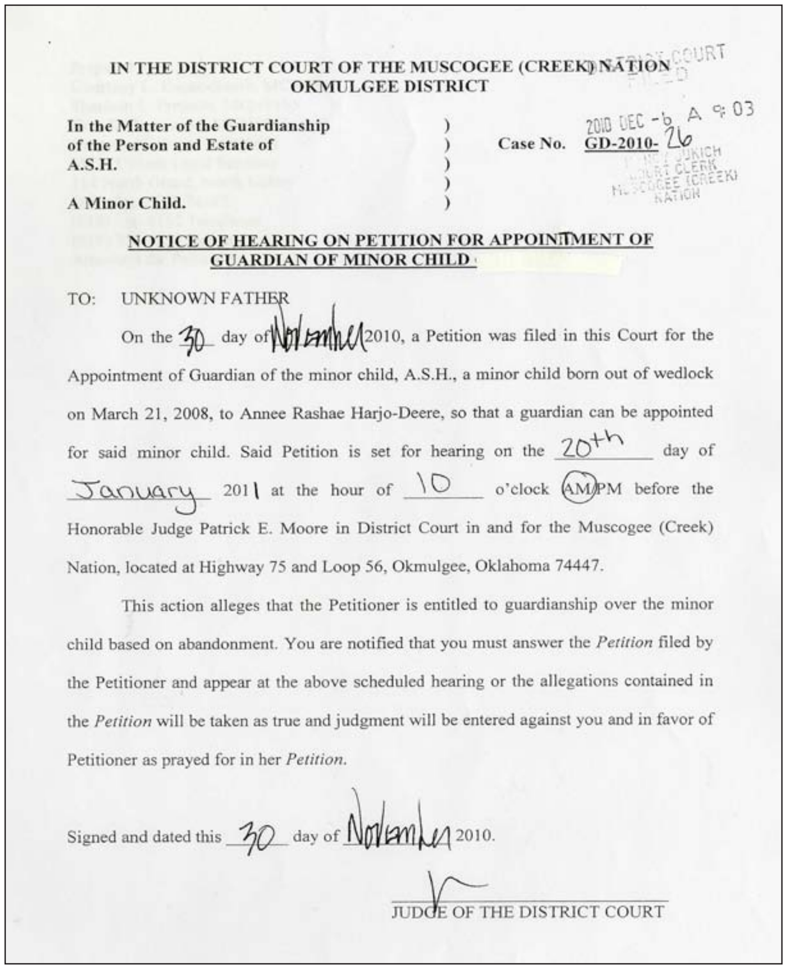
Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Romeo Mallory	Ct. 1: Poss. of CDS Ct. 2: Poss. of CDS Ct. 3: Poss. of Illegal Drug Para.
MCN v. Billy McNinch	Ct. 1: Poss. of CDS
MCN v. Jeff Fife	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Theft of the Nation's Funds Ct. 3: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Ted Tiger	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Jess Harjochee	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Theft of the Nation's Funds Ct. 3: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Cecil Simon Harry	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Theft of the Nation's Funds Ct. 3: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Robert Lee Yargee	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. William Rodney Luellen	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Theft of the Nation's Funds Ct. 3: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Jeanetta Carr	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Theft of the Nation's Funds Ct. 3: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Joseph Louis Domebo	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Cecilia Lorene Wittman	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Jennie Carr Goodell	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Theft of the Nation's Funds Ct. 3: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN v. Daniel Wind	Ct. 1: Conspiracy to embezzle community funds Ct. 2: Theft of the Nation's Funds Ct. 3: Concealing stolen prop.
MCN V. Jasmine Grayson	Ct. 1: Cheating by check

Traffic:

MCN v. Jason Parker	DUS
MCN v. Jason Parker	No Insurance
MCN v. Jason Parker	Expired Tag
MCN v. Michael Oshea	No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Oshea	Expired Tag
MCN v. John Godgel	No Insurance
MCN v. John Godgel	DUS
MCN v. Kelsy Comb	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Ollie Brooks	Expired Tag
MCN v. Leonard Pyle	DUS
MCN v. Leonard Pyle	No Insurance
MCN v. Travis Pigeon	No Driver's License
MCN v. David VanHoose	DUS
MCN v. Cynthia Watson	No Insurance

November 2010 court filings will be continued in the Jan. 15, 2011 edition of the MNN



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2010 DEC -6 A 9:03
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Person and Estate of) Case No. GD-2010- 26
A.S.H.)
)
A Minor Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILD

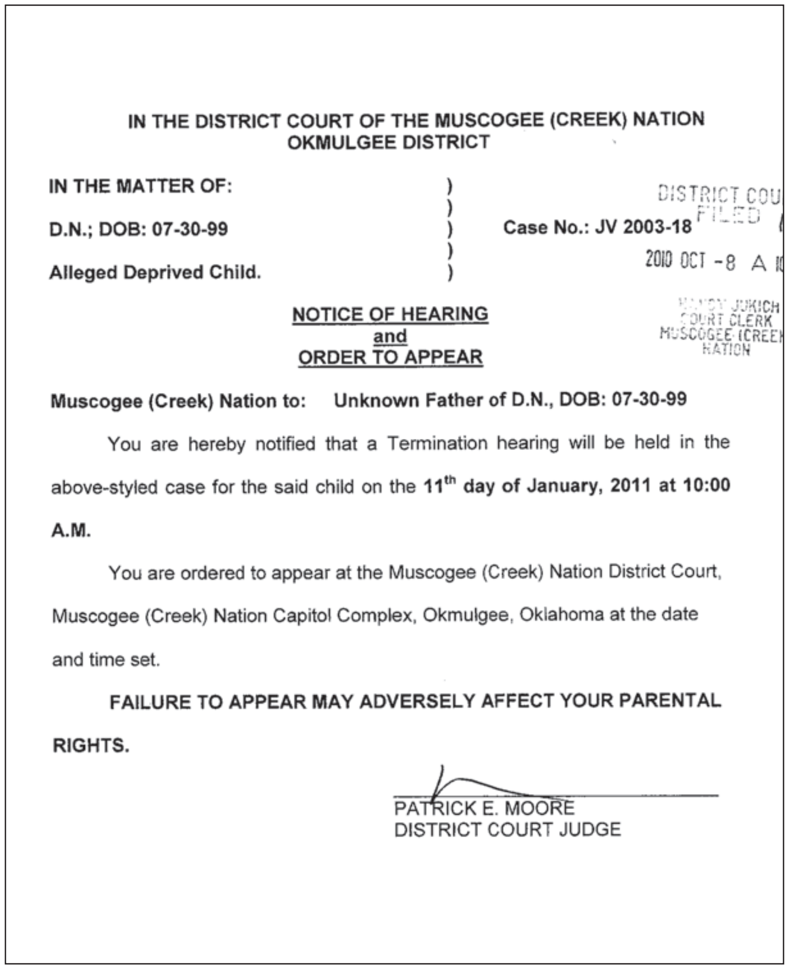
TO: UNKNOWN FATHER

On the 30 day of November 2010, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Appointment of Guardian of the minor child, A.S.H., a minor child born out of wedlock on March 21, 2008, to Annee Rashae Harjo-Deere, so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor child. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 20th day of January 2011 at the hour of 10 o'clock [✓ AM]/PM before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Signed and dated this 30 day of November 2010.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COU
FILED
2010 OCT -8 A
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
D.N.; DOB: 07-30-99) Case No.: JV 2003-18
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
and
ORDER TO APPEAR

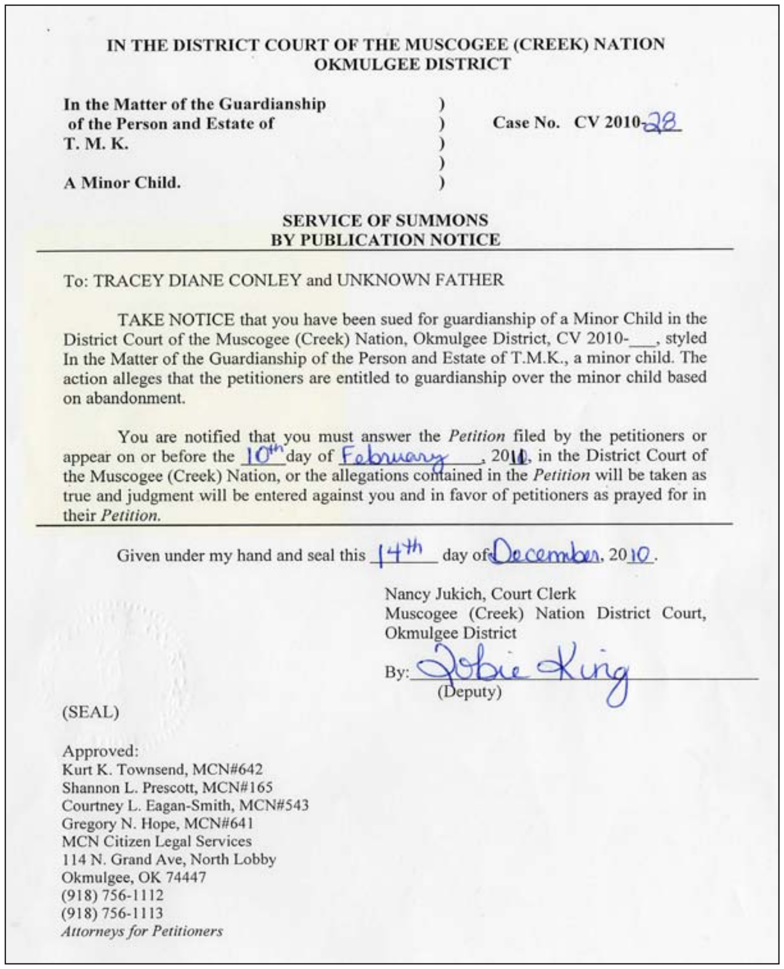
Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Unknown Father of D.N., DOB: 07-30-99

You are hereby notified that a Termination hearing will be held in the above-styled case for the said child on the **11th day of January, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.**

You are ordered to appear at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at the date and time set.

FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Person and Estate of) Case No. CV 2010-28
T. M. K.)
)
A Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: TRACEY DIANE CONLEY and UNKNOWN FATHER

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, CV 2010-___, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of T.M.K., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioners or appear on or before the 10th day of February, 2011, in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioners as prayed for in their *Petition*.

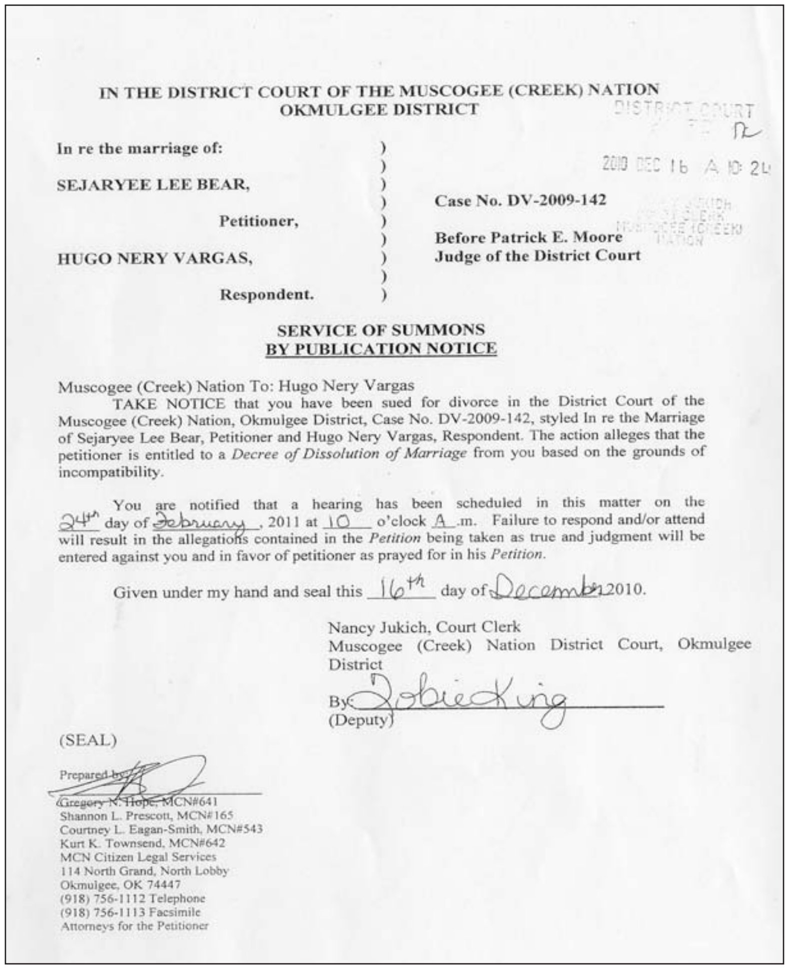
Given under my hand and seal this 14th day of December, 2010.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioners



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
2010 DEC 16 A 10:24

In re the marriage of:)
)
SEJARYEE LEE BEAR,)
) Case No. DV-2009-142
Petitioner,)
) Before Patrick E. Moore
HUGO NERY VARGAS,) Judge of the District Court
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Hugo Nery Vargas

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2009-142, styled In re the Marriage of Sejaryee Lee Bear, Petitioner and Hugo Nery Vargas, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that a hearing has been scheduled in this matter on the 24th day of February, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 16th day of December 2010.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Prepared by:
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for the Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko, Mvskokes!

With the end of 2010, also came the end of one of the most influential Mvskoke lives of the 20th and 21st centuries. Original allottee Martha Berryhill was known for her love of Creek hymns, the color purple and her savior.

She passed from this life at the age of 110, having experienced historic events that I've only ever read about. I can't imagine having been alive for the sinking of the Titanic, the Great Depression, two world wars and everything in between.

To me, her longevity speaks to that of many Creeks. We are a strong people. We have survived removal from our homelands and the replacement in a foreign land. We adapt. We are still here practicing our culture, our religion and our language.

Mvto to those Creeks who will continue to teach our young people about their past, our history and keep building a future that is rich in tradition. Language instructors, ceremonial ground mekkos, church leaders and employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation have the responsibility of keeping this tribe alive in 2011. It is a big job but our people are worth it.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop

Staff
Veterans Affairs Service Office

The Veterans' Scoop will feature articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Smoking cessation treatment offered for PTSD vets

WASHINGTON, D.C., — Smoking cessation treatment that is made part of mental health care for veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) improves quit rates, according to a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) study published in the Dec. 8 Journal of the American Medical Association.

"The smoking cessation techniques used in this new approach will give Veterans an important step towards a better quality of life," said VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. Robert Petzel. "Veterans will be at a lower risk for cardiovascular or lung disease if they do not smoke."

On measures of smoking abstinence for shorter periods of time, researchers found that quit rates were as high as 18 percent for the integrated care group, versus 11 percent for those receiving usual care. When compared to usual care—referral to a standard smoking cessation clinic—the new, integrated approach nearly doubled the rate at which study volunteers stayed smoke-free for a year or longer, from 4.5 percent to almost 9 percent.

Importantly, Veterans in the study who quit smoking showed no worsening of symptoms of PTSD or depression. In fact, study participants averaged a 10-percent reduction in PTSD symptoms, regardless of which treatment they received or whether they quit smoking or not. The findings help dispel concerns that combining care for PTSD and smoking cessation detracts from PTSD treatment or makes it less effective.

Research shows, also, that those with PTSD smoke more heavily than smokers without PTSD and have an especially hard time quitting.

Study leaders Miles McFall, Ph.D., and Andrew Saxon, M.D., say the results validate a promising new VA model of care that can make safe, effective smoking cessation treatment accessible to far more Veterans with PTSD. The new approach may also be effective for smokers receiving mental health care for other psychiatric illnesses, they add.

"We've come a long way in understanding that nicotine dependence for many Veterans with PTSD is a chronic, relapsing condition that responds best to intensive treatment extended over time," McFall says. "These study findings will help us empower more Veterans with the resources they need to quit smoking. Single-shot, brief episodic care for nicotine addiction is no match for what is a chronic, relapsing disorder for many of our Veterans."

McFall notes that while most of the participants in the study were Vietnam-era Veterans, integrated smoking cessation care may be especially beneficial for younger Veterans with PTSD, such as many of those returning from Iraq or Afghanistan, who stand to benefit greatly from quitting smoking relatively early in life.

Says McFall, "Ideally, we can help Veterans quit smoking before it becomes a chronic or intractable condition and causes irreversible health problems such as cardiovascular or lung disease."

The study was conducted by VA's Cooperative Studies Program. For more information on CSP, visit www.csp.research.va.gov

MCN Veteran Spotlight: Steve Martin

MCNPR/*Thompson Gouge*

Pictured above are Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Steve Martin and Major Ken Davis of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Veterans Affairs Services Office.

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Complex employee Steve Martin was honored with a plaque from Chief A.D. Ellis and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO). It was a great surprise for Mr. Martin when he was called back to the GSA office as Chief A.D. Ellis and Major Ken Davis were waiting his arrival.

The plaque read: "For dedication support and esprit de corps you are hereby recognized for earned trust and confidence from the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO). Throughout the years you have always come forward to assist Muscogee veterans in all their activities that enhanced their well being and morale. You never faltered in your spirit of willingness to be first in line to volunteer after hours, and on weekends for their events. Our veterans know you by name, and you are welcome in their ranks. Mr. Martin, you have never retreated from standing with Muscogee Veterans in their time of need, offering sound guidance and implementing ideas through completion. Being relied upon is a rare privilege seldom afforded by Veterans, being trusted much rarer. You have earned the trust, respect and reliance from Muscogee Veterans. Your sincere approach in assisting Muscogee Veterans has never been in words, for you deeds have accomplished. Mr. Stephen Wade Martin, you are an "Attachment" to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO)."

Veterans' photos to be claimed at MCN Senior Services

Media Release
MCN Senior Services

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Services is currently in the possession of several MCN veterans' photos that were submitted to the department in Nov. 2003 for inclusion in the Veteran's Day ceremony. Veterans or family members may claim these photos, which will be returned upon request.

The following is a list of citizens' photos being held at senior services and their respective branches (in no particular order):

Army: Roman Beaver, Johnson Alfred Goat, Dan Childers, Newman Childers, Claude Childers, William Lee Childers, Henry Lee Robertson, Richard Lee Wesley, Sandy Lee Robertson, Louis Mose Wiley; Navy: Charles Mose Wiley, Perry McCombs, Vern Courtwright, Wiley July, Franklin Belcher, Edward Scott, Jr., Edward Wildcat; Marine Corp.: Nettie Wesley Scott and Danie Chowela Day; Air Force: Wilburn N. Wiley; No branch specified: Randolph Bruner, Thurman Ragsdale, Elmer McCombs

There are also some with no names. For more information or to claim a photo, please contact Jackson Barnett at (918) 732-7723.

Jewel

Continued from A1

Ruby resided with her mother in Okmulgee after retiring from Tulsa Regional Hospital with 30 years of service as a Nurse Aide. Martha has been a home maker most of her life.

Martha loved to hand sew quilts and made her own patterns to quilt when her eye sight allowed. She would sell quilts she made to make extra spending money. She also loved to cook and bake cobblers. Martha On Sunday afternoons, after attending church, she has been known for walking to nursing homes and taking hot dishes of traditional Indian foods such as; wild onions (in season), sofkey, sour cornbread, fried salt pork or chicken, dumplings and cobblers to Indian patients. They would put their orders in and make sure they were filled the following Sunday. Sometimes she would take fresh fruit and distribute to them and visit speaking her native tongue which is Mvskoke (Creek). Her purpose in visiting the nursing home was that she didn't want the elderly to feel forgotten or unloved. She would also read scriptures and witness to each resident.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis commented on the passing of a legend. "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has indeed lost a tribal treasure, Martha Berryhill. Martha was our last original allottee. She was a very impressively strong woman. Someday I will be able to tell my grandchildren that I had the pleasure of knowing Martha. I will tell them she was a proud Creek woman, one who totally trusted and praised her Lord. She will surely be missed. She can never be replaced; there will never be another. My condolences to the family," Ellis said.

Martha is a strong believer in Christ and has the utmost faith in her Lord and Savior. She has always prayed daily out loud every day. She attended Newtown Methodist Church in Rural Okmulgee.

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council passed a Law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation for Mrs. Martha Berryhill and her daughter. This law this grants permanent exemption status on all Original Allottees; giving them first priority in getting their needs met and ensures that all remaining documented Original Allottees are made aware of their unique status with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Mrs. Berryhill and Mrs. Ruby Mauk (her daughter and primary caregiver), were in need of a caregiver for at least eight hours a day and in some cases 24 hours a day. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Program then assisted with a temporary caregiver.

Wake Service were held Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2010 at 7 p.m., at the Creek Nation Mound Building in Okmulgee.

Funeral Services were held on Thursday, Dec. 23, 2010 at 11 a.m., at the Creek Nation Mound Building Auditorium.

MNN/*Photos by Ruth and Mallory Bible*

Martha Berryhill, 110, loved music, Creek hymns and playing the tambourine.

McCLENDON-WINTERS

MCN Realty places property into trust status

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has under consideration applications from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation requesting the BIA to acquire lands in trust for the benefit of the Tribe. Just recently the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Trust Services Office has placed twelve properties into trust status for the Tribe, which brings the recent total of 81.3 acres placed into trust status. This is a timely process for the tribe to go through with the many different steps you must go through in order to place property into trust status.

Placing tribal "land into trust" is a process whereby the secretary of the Department of the Interior acquires title to property and holds it in trust for the benefit of a Native American tribe or individual tribal members. Between 1887 and 1934, the federal government took nearly two-thirds of reservation lands from the tribes without compensation. In order to help tribes regain their original land bases, tribes are allowed to obtain additional land and convert it into trust status. The use of trust lands is governed by the tribes, subject to certain federal restrictions, and the land is usually not subject to state laws.

MCNPR/*Thompson Gouge*

Pictured above from left to right are Kim Uribe - Realty Trust Specialist, Kelly Harjo - BIA Superintendent, Rowena Beach - Realty Specialist, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Sonya Lytch - Realty Trust Manager for the Muscogee Creek Nation.

Typical uses of the acquired land include governmental operations, cultural activities, agricultural or forestry activities, increased housing, social and community services, health care and educational facilities. Placing land into trust for gaming purposes, however, has raised concerns in many states and has sometimes confused other legitimate purposes for the trust land designation.

The properties that were placed into trust status are:

- Checotah Indian Community Texanna Rd. property
- Hillabee Ceremonial Ground -Jackson/Gouge Cemetery
- Okemah Indian Community Center's Palmer/Landers Property
- Wetumka Office (old hospital)
- Duck Creek Ranch
- Cromwell Community Grubbs Property
- College of the Muscogee Nation (old social security building)
- Holdenville Childcare
- Patty Property in Creek County
- Canard Property - Wetumka

Release

Continued from A1

The District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a constitutional body pursuant Article VII § 6 of the Constitution. The Supreme Court has recently determined that the National Council can create, but not diminish, inferior courts. Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council v. Muscogee (Creek) Election Board, et al, SC 09-10, p. 6 (2010). The National Council's attempts to oust the District Judge and destroy the District Court are unconstitutional.

Likewise, the Acting Attorney General was appointed by the Principal Chief to fill a vacancy. The National Council has no authority to appoint Attorneys General, Judges or any other position. That authority lies solely with the Principal Chief.

Therefore, NCR 10-10 and NCR 10-11 have no effect other than to express the frustrations of the National Council that they are not the only branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

2011 MCN Challenge Bowl location moved to Morris

Media Release
MCN Challenge Bowl Committee

OKMULGEE — The 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl location has moved from the MCN Multipurpose Building to the Trinity Baptist Church in Morris, Okla.

The address for Trinity Baptist Church is 830 West Ozark Street, in Morris, 74445.

From the intersection of HWY 75 (Wood Drive) & HWY 62 in Okmulgee, head east approximately 5.4 miles on HWY 62 to Morris and Trinity Baptist Church will be located on the north side of the highway.

The MCN Challenge Bowl Committee would like to invite everyone to come and witness the students as they participate in this years' Challenge Bowl. Students will be coming from public schools, churches, communities, ceremonial grounds and tribal towns to participate.

The dates for the competition are:

High School – Feb. 3, Middle School – Feb. 10 and Elementary School – Feb. 17

The purpose of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl is to promote learning about Creek Culture, history, government and language using traditional values of brotherhood as the foundation. The Challenge Bowl was never set up to teach our children how to win in competitions but how to learn, share and be grateful to those willing to teach them.

The Challenge Bowl Committee has set out to have a competition unlike any other academic bowl in the nation. The Challenge Bowl Committee made a commitment to set by example, positive role models in good citizenship and tribal pride that would carry on throughout the year and not just during the few days of competition.

We set out to teach life skills of good manners, respect shown to others, self worth and to show honor in defeat while playing for the love of learning and not just to win a trophy or medal.

The Challenge Bowl Committee is also looking for volunteers for this event. For more information, please contact Melinda Deeringwater at (918) 549-2521.

For more information on the MCN Challenge Bowl, contact Joe Martel at (918) 732-7841.

Citizens urged to update 911 addresses

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens are urged to update their mailing addresses in order to continue receiving the *Muscogee Nation News*.

Citizens living on rural routes should provide their 911 addresses.

To update contact information or to be added to the mailing list, citizens must provide proof of citizenship (for a free subscription) and may contact Wilma Murphy at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept., at (918) 732-7720, by fax at (918) 758-0824.

Correspondence may also be sent to:

MCN Communications Dept.
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Energy assistance available beginning Jan. 10, 2011

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department offers two programs in the winter for heating assistance.

New participants may apply beginning Jan. 10, 2011. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2011, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries.

The Tribal Energy program is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits.

To apply for either of these programs, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 - 4 p.m. Offices are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn.: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please do not mail CDIB/citizenship cards or original documents.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to (918) 549-2494 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. Call Social Services at (918) 549-2445 to find out when we'll be in your area. Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal enrollment cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Driver's license for those without a tribal enrollment card

3) Gas bill OR Propane vendor OR Wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric. You may be asked to verify this.)

4) Copies of all income sources – this is for LIHEAP AND Tribal Energy

5) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

6) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

7) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities and/or deposits.

8) Additional documentation may be required based on your individual situation.

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Social Services at 918-549-2445 if you need additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 2445.

Lowe wins OU tickets by listening to Creek Nation Radio News Program

ody
Colors
Ekv
Hvcko
Cukwv
Nokwv
Enkewesakv
Sakpv
Nvrke
Ele-tvpe
Holatte
Cate
Pvrko-ome
Yvlahv Ome
Cate-Ome
Lvste
OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA
Sooner Memories

MNN/*Melodie Reader*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen and employee Mona 'KoKo' Lowe recently won a pair of tickets to the OU/Texas Tech tickets just by listening to the Creek Nation Radio Program in November! Tune in each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., on KOKL AM 1240 for a chance to win give-a-ways as well as the latest in tribal and community news. The show may also be heard 24/7 on-line at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Social Services January 2011 Field Schedule

Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	2nd Thursday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	3rd Thursday of month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:30 am	3rd Tuesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	4th Thursday of month
Koweta	Community Center 8:30 am – 11:00 am	2nd Tuesday of month
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	2nd Wednesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	3rd Wednesday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	2nd Wednesday of month
Wetumka	Creek Nation offices (old hospital) 9:00 am – 11:00 am	4th Wednesday of month

KENNEDY
funeral & cremation

TWO LOCATIONS TO BETTER SERVE YOUR NEEDS:

231 E. COMMERCIAL ST.
BROKEN ARROW, OK 74012
PHONE: 918.251.5331
FAX: 918.258.3774

202 E. OAK ST.
CATOOSA, OK 74015
PHONE: 918.266.2112
FAX:918.266.6165

WWW.KAKFS.COM

Cynthia Tainpeah Muscogee Creek Nation

Honor what is
SACRED

Quit Commercial Tobacco

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.

☎ Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline
1 800 QUIT NOW
Free help 1-800-784-8669

If You Are a Native American Who Tried to Get a Farm Loan or Loan Servicing from the USDA,

You Could Receive Benefits from a $760 Million Class Action Settlement.

A class action Settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") has been reached. The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans who applied for or tried to apply for farm loans or loan servicing. The USDA denies it did anything wrong.

Am I included?

The Class includes all Native American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch between January 1, 1981 and November 24, 1999;
- Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA during that period; **and**
- Complained about discrimination to the USDA either on their own or through a representative during the time period.

You are not eligible for this Settlement if you filed a claim, or intend to file a claim, in another USDA discrimination case like Pigford I or Pigford II (Black farmers), Garcia (Hispanic farmers) or Love (Women farmers).

Because of a law passed by Congress, you are also not eligible for this Settlement if you **either**:

- Experienced discrimination only between January 1 and November 23, 1997; **or**
- Complained of discrimination only between July 1 and November 23, 1997.

What does the Settlement provide?

The $760 million Settlement will pay cash to Class Members for valid claims as well as attorneys' fees (between 4% and 8%, subject to Court approval) and awards. The Settlement includes up to $80 million in USDA loan forgiveness for Class Members who qualify. The USDA will pay an additional $20 million to implement the Settlement and will make some changes to their farm loan programs. Any money left after all payments and expenses have been made will be donated to one or more organizations that help Native American farmers and ranchers.

What can I get from the Settlement?

The amount of money you will receive will depend on whether you file a claim under Track A or Track B. It will also depend on the total number of claims that are filed and approved.

Track A – You can get a payment up to $50,000 for your discrimination claim plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

Track B – You can get the amount of your actual damages up to $250,000. Track B requires more proof than Track A.

USDA Loan Forgiveness – Under both Track A and Track B you can get forgiveness on part or all of your eligible USDA farm loans plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

How do I get benefits?

You will need to file a claim by **December 24, 2011** to get benefits. After the Court approves the Settlement, meetings will be held across the country to help Class Members file claims. You can register for a Claims Package at the website or by calling the toll-free number.

What are my other rights?

- If you want to keep your right to sue the USDA about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **February 28, 2011**. Unless you exclude yourself, you will be bound by the terms of this Settlement.
- If you stay in the Settlement, you can object to or comment on it by **February 28, 2011**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **April 28, 2011** to consider whether to approve the Settlement and the attorneys' fees. The Court has appointed attorneys to represent the Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.

For More Information: 1-888-233-5506 www.IndianFarmClass.com

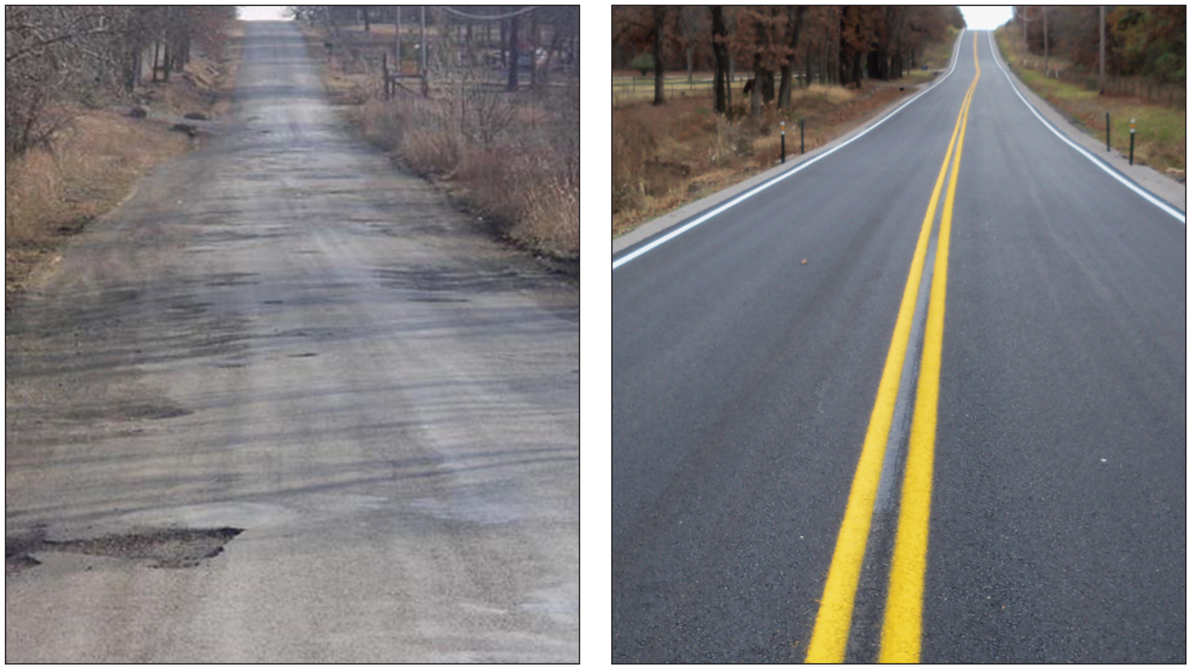
SECTION B

FEATURES

Jan. 1, 2011 Edition

Nation paves the way

• $6 million designated for Native American-traveled roads



MNN/Melodie Reader

Pictured above are before and after photos of Sheridan Road. MCN Division of Tribal Affairs Indian Reservation Roads Director Ben Chaney oversees multiple transportation projects throughout Creek Nation which benefit tribal citizens.

Melodie Reader
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — As drivers make their daily commute, the drive may not always be pleasant, due to the rugged conditions of some rural roads. Those who travel rural roads and main arteries to area highways may note some of those roads have been upgraded and repaired to make their daily trek more pleasant.

While road construction may be one of the things many drivers complain about, the end result is appreciated by most commuters. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Reservation Roads Program, who is committed to improve road conditions for citizens, has worked to repair and reconstruct many miles of roadway within Creek Nation.

MCN Division of Tribal Affairs Indian Reservation Roads Director Ben Chaney oversees multiple transportation projects throughout Creek Nation which benefit tribal citizens.

"I oversee the Indian Reservation Roads and the Transit Department is a spin-off of that," said Chaney. "We cover all of Creek Nation which lies within the jurisdictional boundaries. This means we have over 600 roads in our inventory. Within the 11 counties we serve, there are over 7,400 miles of roadway."

MCN IRR has a field tech which routinely checks traffic count and gathers data. Once data is gathered and forms completed, the information is submitted to the Transportation Planning Department to enter into inventory and the internal procedures begin.

SEE ROADS - B2

MCN Festival dates released for 2011

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee announces the dates for the 37th Annual Festival 2011.

The Slow Pitch Softball Tournament is scheduled for June 17-19, 2011. Festival Weekend will be held the following weekend, June 23-26, 2011. The opening stomp dance ceremony will be held Thursday, June 23rd at 7:30p.m.

Festival planning is currently in progress. The food vendor area is currently being restructured and construction of the Multi-Purpose building at the Claude Cox Omniplex is nearing completion. Not only will the building be of benefit during the Festival, but also contribute to the success of events to be held throughout the year.

In 2010, Festival attendance reached a record level. Festival goers were able to use brand new rest rooms centrally located east of the softball complex. Arts and crafts vendors made use of a new pavilion and the All-Indian Rodeo returned thanks to the dedication and hard work of the Arrington-McSpadden Region 8 All-Indian Rodeo Association. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival is a collaborative effort of the departments and entities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with operations overseen by the Tourism & Recreation Department.

Attendees can expect a bigger and better Festival in 2011. We hope to see you there! For more information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992, toll free at (800) 482-1979 or send email to tourism@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Wicked weather and Risk Management

Melodie Reader
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — With the unpredictability of Oklahoma weather, many communities have the potential to be completely shut down when wicked weather hits.

Without the assistance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Risk Management and Emergency Management, some communities would be hard-pressed to have adequate shelter for their citizens. It important for citizens to have a safe shelter in a disaster, it is also important to prepare and maintain equipment.

SEE WEATHER - B4

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country:
Field Notes

B4 PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

MCN Risk Management

B5 SPOTLIGHT

Creek flutist finds success in Texas river cane

B6 PEOPLE

Obituary: Andra Barnett

B7 AD

Creek Nation Casino: Muscogee

CREEK NATION Casino
STRIKES HERE!

Roads

Continued from B1

"We have to do a comprehensive plan every year and prioritize roads from our inventory. When we prioritize, basically, we choose from that inventory the roads that would best fit the needs of our citizens," said Chaney. "For instance, places like a ceremonial ground, church or concentration of Indian homes will help determine the roads that we will reconstruct. If it's heavily used by the Native American population in the Creek Nation, that's our choice and the basic criteria."

The program is federally-funded through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Chaney sends his recommendations and data, once reviewed by the MCN Roads Committee, to the BIA Regional office in Muskogee, Okla., who reviews it and forwards it to the BIA office in Albuquerque, N.M. They then review it and forward it to the BIA office in Washington D.C., for final approval. Once everything is approved through the proper channels, the approval is sent, in reverse order and the plans are put into place.

"Our main reason for being here is the IRR program," said Chaney. "It takes a lot to reconstruct roads and everything we do is federally-funded. In the congressional record, 25 CFR 170 tells us what can and cannot be allowed."

The IRR Department is comprised of three areas, the Federal Roads Construction, Transit and Transportation Planning.

"Transportation Planning is where it all starts. It's a long program, but the short and the long of it is, Transportation Planning paves the way, as it were, through the BIA, and the Federal Highway Administration to receive funding through our annual funding agreement, explained Chaney.

The IRR has entered into a direct service agreement with the BIA to help with the management of future projects.

"We are working with the BIA and have entered into a direct service agreement with them to do the design and engineering for our projects," said Chaney.

One bonus of the program is that a portion of the funds can be utilized for the Diabetes Walking Trails program and the Transit System.

"We started the transit program in 2003 because there were funds available through the IRR program," explained Chaney.

"The Transit program has grown to the point where it is almost larger than the other programs. It's governed by IRR funding and we can only get so much funding through this program. We have received some grants through the federal transit administration, but it's not enough," continued Chaney.

"We bought the coach three years ago and it goes coast to coast," said Chaney. "National Council uses it, the Elderly program uses it, and communities use it. We can't charter the bus, but we can accept donations for reimbursement to cover the driver's salary, per diem and gas."

The Transit Program has three full routes which run at set times during the week. Okemah route, which covers Wetumka and Weleetka, and the Tulsa and Eufaula routes.

Through the week, local pickups average approximately 75 riders each day.

"We could use two more drivers to accommodate more people, as our routes are full, one for morning pickup and one for evening drop-off," said Chaney. "I currently have four construction crew, five drivers, two in transportation planning, one administrative assistant on the federal roads construction side, and myself, so we have 13 full-time employees and one part-time coach driver."

Transit also shuttles people during the festival and run every 15 minutes from the Housing parking lot.

"When I first came here, our allotment was a little over $2 million and now we've grown to over $6 million, right now it costs about $700,000 per mile to reconstruct a road. A million dollars doesn't go very far anymore," said Chaney.

"We have a force account crew that does the groundwork for some projects," said Chaney. "We now have all the pieces of equipment needed to construct roads."

IRR has just received funding to finish developing the MCN 40-acre industrial site in Okmulgee, Okla. They are currently working on the parking lot for the Claude Cox Dome and have finished the parking lot for the College of the Muscogee Nation.

Projects that IRR have worked on or completed in 2010 include 281st Street, Tribal Complex emergency entrance/exit and second entrance smoothing and Eufaula Street is in pre-construction mode as is Spaulding Road between Holdenville and Spaulding.

IRR also completed Sheridan Road which was a cooperative effort between IRR and Okmulgee County Commissioner District 1.

2011 projects up for consideration include Twin Hills Road, Natura South (Hwy 16 to Will Sampson Road), Rock Store Road (west of Wilson School), Pickett Chapel Road, Salt Creek Church Road and Arbeka Church Road.

"The best thing about my job is the satisfaction of doing things that we've needed to do some time ago," said Chaney. "We are in the process of building more roads this year than we ever have. We completed more roads last year than we ever have. We're looking at all areas of Creek Nation and in every county we have projects or possible projects. So, we're going to end up with 14 or 20 in 2011 at one stage or another being constructed."

Chaney also sits on the Governor's Tribal Advisory Board, Policy Planning Committee for Indian Nations Council of Government, and Steering Committee for Tribal Technical Assistance Program through OSU, Coordinating and Transportation Committee for Metro Tulsa and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation 20 year planning committee, among others.

For more information on MCN IRR, please contact Ben Chaney at (918) 732-7907.

Mvskoke Country:

Field Notes

by James Treat

Thank you for reading "Mvskoke Country"! I've enjoyed hearing from MNN readers during the past 18 months, and I'm especially grateful to those who have posted comments on the "Mvskoke Country" web site, where each monthly column is archived.

This month I am adding a new feature to the web site: "field notes," a weekly feed of vital insights from the archive on Mvskoke ecological knowledge.

New posts will appear on Wednesdays, Ennvrkvpv—literally, "the middle of (the week)"— because that's where we humans stand with respect to the natural environment: in the middle of things, and with no clear way out of the ecological crises we've created.

I hope these short passages will help you and I reflect on the future of our life together here on planet Earth.

The first post is reprinted below, but future "field notes" will be available only on the web site. You can receive the full text of each week's post in your e-mail inbox by signing up for a free subscription: go to http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/ and enter your address in the "E-mail Subscription" box on the right sidebar, then click the "Subscribe" button. This is an automated service and your address will not be used for any other purpose.

And if you like what you read, tell a friend. Mvto!

* * *

Alexander Posey, 1905:

"I went out for a stroll this morning in the low-lying hills just east of Paden in answer to the call of the wild. I said to myself as I sauntered forth, I'm tired of the gloom in a four-walled room; heart-weary, I sigh for the open sky and the solitude of the greening wood. It was a bright beautiful morning, though the night had been dark and stormy—thrust by lightning and rent by thunder. The rosy arrows of dawn were flying in the east and a wooing zephyr was blowing over the horizon from the south. On the outskirts of town I was joined by a small bench-legged dog with a long body like a weasel. I discovered at once that he was not of low sofky or cur extraction common hereabouts, but a well-bred and good mannered canine whose company a Fifth Avenue lady might desire. He scampered ahead of me, stopping and looking back ever and anon lest he get out of my sight. We came at length to a little brook which was up. I ran and jumped across it, landing somewhat in the mud. My strange bench-legged friend attempted to do likewise and fell in out of sight. He scrambled out dripping at every hair and looking at me as if he expected me to laugh at his plight. But I maintained my composure and he came to me wagging his tail and seeking sympathy. I patted him on the head and he—shook water all over me. When we reached the out-skirts of the town on our return, we separated as unceremoniously as we had met, he going one way and I the other. It was a pleasant and laughable incident in my morning's ramble. I have always liked a dog's company in the woods. With a dog for a guide and philosopher the sense of loneliness is dispelled and n ature brought closer. Then a dog is always sure to do something ludicrous, as my bench-legged companion did this morning, encouraging the development of the sense of humor.

"This is a sort of strange land out here."

From Lost Creeks: Collected Journals, edited by Matthew Wynn Sivils (University of Nebraska Press, 2009).

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MFSI 3rd Annual Food Sovereignty Symposium

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative will host the third annual Food Sovereignty Symposium Feb. 18 - 19, 2011. This event is free and open to all.

Program details may be obtained at MFSI 208 W. 6th Street, Okmulgee, Okla., or at (918) 756-5915 or e-mail mvskokefood@gmail.com

Glenpool N.A.S.A. 8th annual Stompdance

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool Native American Student Association will be hosting a Stomp dance Jan. 29, 2011 at the Glenpool Creek Indian Community building located off HWY 75 & 141st Street (Behind the smoke shop) from 7 p.m., to midnight. Participants are asked to bring thier own chairs.

For more information, contact Kristi Collington at (918) 322-3823 ext. 560 or 568. Booths are free with an item donation.

Benefit bingo and food sale

HANNAH — A bingo will take place on Jan. 22, 2011 to benefit Susie Harjo. Concession will open at 5 p.m., and will feature hamburgers, hotdogs, etc.

The bingo will begin at 7 p.m. The cost is $10 per pack and $2 per special games. Bingo will be held at the Hannah Indian Community Center located three miles east of the Hanna Post Office. For more information call (918) 657-2307 or Lucy Harjo at (918) 657-2381.

OIC scholarship available

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Clinic Education Committee is now accepting scholarship applications for the Spring 2011 semester. The applicant or parent of the applicant must be an active member of the community and be either a part-time for full-time student.

For more information, please call (918) 758-0970, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. - noon.

TCIC seeking part-time assistant secretary

TULSA — A part-time assistant secretary is needed for Tulsa Creek Indian Community located at 8611 S. Union in Tulsa.

Applicants must be computer literate and familiar with word processing software. Duties are varied and Creek preference will be applied. Must provide tribal citizenship card and valid OK driver's license. A background check is also required.

Applicants may fill out an application in person at TCIC. The deadline for applications is Jan. 15, 2011.

For more information call (918) 298-2464 and ask for Rebekah or Ted. Send faxed applications to (918) 298-2466 or by e-mail at: tulsacreekcommunity@yahoo.com.

2011 MCN Festival dates

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

For more information, contact T&R at (918) 732-7992.

Council House T-shirts

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council House Committee is selling commemorative Council House T-shirts. The cost is $10 for all sizes, including S - 4X.

For more information, please contact Rachel Sumka at (918) 732-7604 or Shelby Rex at (918) 732-7605.

Mvskoke Language CDs

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Language Program has a 9-CD set containing over 600 Mvskoke words and phrases for $15. An additional CD ROM containing all of the audio including the written Mvskoke words and phrases is available for $5.

For more information or to order a set, please call (918) 732-7724.

2010 MCN Festival hoodies for sale

OKMULGEE — The MCN Tourism & Recreation Department are selling 2010 Festival hoodies, subject to availability. Children's hoodies are $5 and adult sizes S - 4X are $15.

For more information, please call (918) 732-7992.

MCN Communications now booking senior portraits

OKMULGEE — The MCN Photography Department offers quality photos for citizens at an affordable price. Senior pictures and family portraits are available in-studio or on-location throughout the Creek Nation jurisdictional boundaries.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Mallory Bible at (918) 732-7639.

2011 MCN Festival sponsorship opportunities available

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee invites any and all parties interested in joining the celebration to become a sponsor of the MCN Festival.

Sponsorships are available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization. For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

MCN American Red Cross Blood Drive

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will host a blood drive sponsored by the American Red Cross on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2011 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the MCN Housing Authority Building in the first floor conference room. All presenting donors will receive a T-shirt while supplies last.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Denise Jacobs at (918) 732-7632 or by e-mail at denisej@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or visit www.redcrossblood.org

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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MNN/*Melodie Reader*

Risk Management Manager Phil Booker works with his department to ensure all tribal buildings and other assets are covered on insurance and to make the tribal complex a safe workplace for employees.

Weather

Continued from B1

MCN Risk Management Manager Phil Booker works with his department to ensure all tribal buildings and other assets are covered on insurance and to make the tribal complex a safe workplace for employees.

"I started here in 2002 when Chief Beaver was in office and have continued to work with Chief Ellis on our insurance for the tribe," said Booker. "Our department saved the tribe about a couple of hundred thousand that first year and a half, trying to figure out what the tribe had and what was double, triple and even quadruple covered on the insurance."

"We started getting all our assets together. Knowing who had what was another thing, because no one knew what all buildings were owned or managed, operated or under what department," said Booker.

Risk Management also follows up on all tribally-related accidents and injuries.

"After we got here, we got with the Attorney General's office and adopted the International Building Code Guidelines for us to go by," said Booker. "This covers upkeep, maintenance and repairs. This has six or seven codes in it for plumbing, electrical and so on and so forth."

"We're getting better quality workers in here to do the work," acknowledged Booker. "If they don't do it right, then they get taken off the list and don't get a chance to bid the next time, which is the way big businesses do it."

The Risk Management Department also houses the Emergency Management Department, which is Managed by James Nichols.

"I approached the Executive Director about starting an emergency management program up to help citizens and to have a place for disaster readiness. Instead of trying to take care of each individual citizen, what we can do, since we have community centers, is set up shelters," said Booker. "All of our community centers can be a shelter but Holdenville and Okemah, as they do not have generators or transfer centers wired in yet."

The designated shelters also have Portable On Demand Storage (PODS) on-site, which house cots, blankets, water, toiletries and other items needed during a disaster or emergency.

According to Booker, the emergency budget is approved by law, so that there is always money, which the emergency team can use to work.

After the first big ice storm, the emergency management team learned how facilities, accounting and other departments work together during a crisis.

"That first big ice storm we had was a learning experience for us," said Booker. "We learned how the cash flow system would work with accounting; the attorney general for reviewing contracts for short-term hires; nutrition centers and who they feed and how many are depending on them. We learned how all of us come together to get the job done, instead of one department doing everything. We've worked out most of the bugs and have a pretty good system in place right now, in case disaster strikes again."

The monies spent were over $200,000 but approximately 87.5 percent was recouped from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) over a three-year period, since the area covered was declared a disaster area after the storm, according to Booker.

"If the area is declared a disaster, we can recoup from FEMA most of those funds utilized," said Booker. "But even if we don't, we're gonna take care of our people."

For more information on Risk Management or Emergency Management, please contact Phil Booker at (918) 732-7794.

> *". . . We learned how all of us come together to get the job done, instead of one department doing everything. We've worked out most of the bugs and have a pretty good system in place right now, in case disaster strikes again."*
>
> - Phil Booker, Risk Management Manager

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Creek flutist finds success in Texas river cane

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

MNN/*Gerald Wofford*
Pictured above is Creek flutist William Harjo from south Texas with a cedar flute who plays and crafts his own hand-made flutes.

HANNA — In 1994, William Harjo was a successful administrator living in Kansas City, Mo. Harjo had been an alcohol and drug counselor for six years and knew the job inside and out. He was successful in writing grants and receiving contracts and even had a staff working for him.

The job was very routine and was rewarding in many ways, but Harjo had grown a little tired of the pace and more importantly, what it was doing to his life and where he felt he was headed toward. It wasn't that the job was a horrible one but Harjo felt he wanted to see what else life might bring him.

"At first I felt I just needed some time off," says Harjo, "so I called my boss and told him I was going to take the day off, after a little while I called him back and told him I was going to take my two week vacation that I had coming, then after a while I just called him back and told him I wasn't coming back." In psychologist's terms today, it might be defined as a classic case of burn-out.

For Harjo it wasn't just a simple decision, he knew that his main income would be gone and he was literally throwing away a good career, but he felt he was looking at the bigger picture of life and he knew he wanted a change, not only in his life's path, but his location as well. So the Muscogee (Creek) man decided to move to south Texas, along with his son, Ryan.

Harjo, with no exact plan or goal, just started living a completely new life. "I wasn't drawing any paycheck and unemployment can only take you so far," laughs Harjo who didn't seem to mind the new lifestyle.

With a lot of spare time and the days sometimes becoming long, Harjo would often do yard work and clear out the nearby brush areas that were near his new home.

The landscape of south Texas is quite different than the area of Hanna, Okla., where Harjo was born. The area contained ponds and swamp-like fields. When clearing the brushy areas, Harjo would often gather the thick stalk or river canes that resembled bamboo. One day while doing this task, Harjo broke some of the stalk and proceeded to be creative with it. He got out his knife, carved a few holes in it and made himself a crude flute.

"This was done just for relaxation," says Harjo who really hadn't decided what else he might do in life, let alone with a simple creation like a flute. Harjo did seem to like the idea of making the musical instruments though and neighbors told him that he seemed to have a knack for it.

Ryan was a talented pow-wow dancer and people told Harjo that he might want to try to sell the homemade flutes at the local dances that he accompanied his son to. Harjo even thought maybe it would help out with some gas money and "That way I didn't have to spend my hard-earned unemployment check," he laughs.

> *"My great-great grandfather, Shelby, was known as a healer. . . He healed through his songs; he had lost his voice but through a flute he made from a hickory tree, he would blow the sound through the flute. I make my songs the same way that he used to."*
>
> — William Harjo, Creek flutist

He continued to create the instruments and found the new income was helping with his son's trips and other daily needs overall. Later, one of the neighbors even asked, "So what are you going to do with your flute-making business?" remembers Harjo. "I said, 'What flute-making business?' and he told me that if you can do something and it can support itself for two years then it's a good business and I had been doing it for five."

Harjo was not only being creative at making the flutes but he was also giving exhibitions on how to play the flute as well. By this time, Harjo was well-accomplished in his flute creations and his unique way of playing the flute as well.

Harjo was working again, but this time he was enjoying it and found that the support he was giving his son was also beneficial to him. While taking his son to different pow-wows, his business began to grow even more and he was soon finding that his name was becoming synonymous with flute-making. As more people bought his flutes, he was also being asked to perform. The performances would start out at pow-wows where people would approach him to perform at other public venues.

Since that time, Harjo has seen his gift explode on the Native American music scene, and has performed internationally in Europe, bringing Native American dance troops along on the trips.

Although Harjo's introduction to flute-making and playing really took off when he left his job and transplanted himself in Texas, he said the connection started with an ancestor.

"My great-great grandfather, Shelby, was known as a healer," says Harjo, "He healed through his songs; he had lost his voice but through a flute he made from a hickory tree, he would blow the sound through the flute. I make my songs the same way that he used to, I will make a sentence and then speak it into my flute to use it as my voice."

Harjo admits that it is not a stretch to say that the discovery of the flute and its meaning to his life has practically saved him. "It has always opened doors for me and I was used to speaking in front of audiences due to my earlier career so now when I speak in front of audiences about something that I deeply care about, it comes easy."

Not only has the flute allowed Harjo to travel all over the world, it has also allowed him to meet celebrities like Al Franken, the former 'Saturday Night Live' comedian turned politician and recently Harjo's flutes have been featured in the fall edition of the Smithsonian Institute magazine. Harjo has also been invited to play and create his flutes during the annual pow-wows and different cultural events the museum has throughout the year.

Beside all the opportunities that the flute has created for Harjo, he admits that to play it is still a healing influence for him, "When I'm feeling low, I play my flute and it puts me in a relaxed mood, it has been a blessing for me."

For more information about Harjo and his flute-making, visit his web-site at www.harjoflutes.com

OBITUARIES

ANDRA BARNETT

OKMULGEE — Andra Sue "Gal" Barnett, a longtime resident of the Okmulgee area, died Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010 in Tulsa at the age of 64. She was born on Oct. 30, 1945 to Andrew Spaniard and Anna (Scott) Spaniard.

Andra married Benjamin Barnett, March 10, 1965 in Miami, Okla. She was a member of the Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church.

Barnett was preceded in death by her parents, Andrew and Anna (Scott) Spaniard.

She is survived by her husband, Ben Barnett of the home; three daughters, Jill Barnett of Jenks, Traci Barnett of Okmulgee, and Sunnie Taylor and husband Leslie of Tulsa, 14 grandchildren, four great grand children, sister, Kogee Spaniard of Okmulgee, brother Michael Spaniard of Tulsa, aunt, Maxine Harjo of Wetumka, as well as a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Wake Services were held 7 p.m., on Sunday, Oct. 31 at Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church. Funeral Services were Monday, Nov. 1, 2010 at the Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church. Interment was held in Hanna Cemetery in Hanna, Okla., under the direction of Integrity Funeral Services of Henryetta.

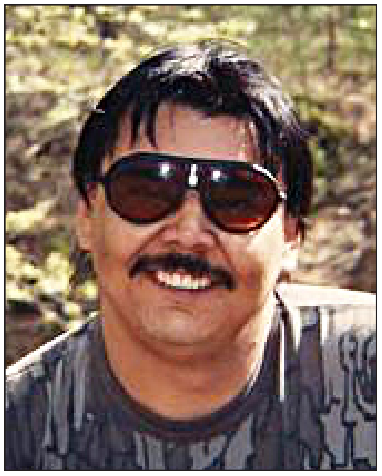
CLARENCE TIGER

SAPULPA — Clarence C. Tiger passed away Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2010 at the age of 70. He was born April 14, 1940 to George and Melissa (Harjo) Tiger in Claremore, Okla.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Melissa Tiger; Son, George Palmer Tiger and three great grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Sally Tiger of the home; seven children, Rhonda Hill of Okemah, Kristi Hooper and husband, Shayne of Sapulpa, Ben Gibson and wife, Kimberly of Okemah, Clarence Tiger, Jr. of Sapulpa, Lucy Tiger of Sapulpa, Hully Tiger and wife, Michelle of Sapulpa and James Tiger and wife, Mary of Glenpool; sister, Christine Henneha of Okemah, 16 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

DAVID SLOAN



OKMULGEE — David Shane Sloan, a resident of Okmulgee, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010 at the age of 52. He was born April 30, 1958 to Jack and Loretta (Johnson) Sloan in Okmulgee, Okla.

Sloan was preceded in death by his son, Simon Shane Sloan, father, Jack Sloan and sister, Kim Sloan.

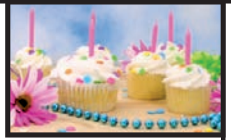
Survivors include his mother, De Sloan of Okmulgee; life partner for 35 years, Betty Jean Sloan of the home; son, David Lee Sloan of the home; sisters, Deann Denney and husband, Kenny of Crosby, Texas and Kay Sloan of Okmulgee; one grandson, Lane Sloan and nieces and nephews.

Services were held at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, 2010 at the Belvin Baptist Church with Keeper Johnson officiating. Burial followed the service at the Okmulgee Cemetery under the direction of the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Okmulgee.

Friends may send their condolences to www.shurdenjackson.com

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ____________________________________
Address:____________________________________
Date of Birth: ______________________________
Theme of the party:___________________________
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ____________________________________
Clan: ______________________________________
Tribal Town:_________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ____________________________________
Address:____________________________________
Date of Birth: ______________________________
Name of Hospital: ___________________________
Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______**inches**
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________________
Tribal Town:_________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ____________________________________
Address:____________________________________
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________________
Tribal Town:_________________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

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SUMMER YOUTH
2011

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS: DECEMBER 20TH THROUGH MARCH 18TH
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

AGES 16-21
MUST BE A MEMBER OF A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBE. MUST LIVE IN CREEK NATION BOUNDARIES.

TO APPLY CALL:
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1-800-482-1979 EXT. 7775 OR 7776

DEADLINE TO GET ALL PAPERWORK IN THE OFFICE IS APRIL 1, 2011.

Miss Muscogee (C

NO FAXED APPLICATIONS
WILL BE ACCEPTED

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Jan. 15, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 2

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Building a brighter future

• CMN opens doors to opportunity

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above are College of the Muscogee Nation Regent Mike Flud, President Robert Bible, Regent Blue C. Clarke and President of the Native American Student Association Rayshell Shabies at the college's December ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE —With the new academic year now in full swing, College of the Muscogee Nation students are now cracking their books and practicing their Mvskoke in a new, state-of-the-art building, located at 1200 Highway Loop 56 in Okmulgee, Okla.

The CMN dedication and open house were held on-site Friday, Dec. 17, 2010.

The CMN encompasses eight classrooms, a library, computer lab, administrative and faculty offices and a conference room, which are all heated and cooled by a geothermal system.

SEE LEARN - A5

Impeachment petition fails third time

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — On Nov. 12, 2010, a Notice of Petition to Remove a Public Officer, A.D. Ellis as Principal Chief, was filed by Edward F. Mouss, II to the Secretary of the Election Board of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The petition was to be signed showing cause of removal containing 20 percent or 3,296 of the 16,478 registered voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at that time.

Mouss had 60 days from the date of the receipt of the certified list of registered voters to file a petition with the required signatures.

A notice of petition to remove a public officer was not received at the time of the deadline, 5 p.m., Jan. 13, 2011.

Mouss plans to file another petition in 2011. ". . .the language in the petition needed to be amended a bit so that if or when we are able to get the required number of signatures, then the allegations will stand up better in the impeachment hearing," Mouss stated in an e-mail received Jan. 14, 2011.

National Council Quarterly Meeting set for Jan. 29

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — Saturday, Jan. 29, 2011, the National Council will hold their quarterly meeting at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capital Complex Mound Building Auditorium.

All are invited to witness this quarterly meeting to see the progress of the nation. For citizens unable to attend the National Council Regular Session, the meeting will be available through a live web cast at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Go to the National Council Web site and click on the 'View Meetings Live' link.

For more information, contact the National Council at (918) 758-1418.

A2 LEGAL
MCN District court filings

A3 LEGAL
Letter from the Editor and legal notices

A4 VETERANS
Creek couple celebrate 65 years

A6 CAPITOL NEWS
JOM hosts 9th annual Career Day

A8 EDUCATION
Alaska-based Afognaks visit Euchee House

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

District Court filings for Nov. 2010

The District Court filings from Nov. 1, 2010 through Nov. 31, 2010 are as follows:

Civil:

Bell Finance v. Charlotte Stallings	Small Claims
Bell Finance v. Stephanie Sutton	Small Claims
Bell Finance v. Phillip Deo	Small Claims
Bell Finance v. Barbara West	Foreign Judgment
Banner Finance v. Charlotte Stallings	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Karen Carnes	Small Claims
Patsy & Smokey Lewis v. Pam Turnham	Complaint
Bell Finance v. Jerry Pease Sr.	Small Claims
Q.C. Financial Services v. Natasha Edmondson	Small Claims
Q. C. Financial Services v. Brandee Beaver	Small Claims
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Crystal Ruth aka Crystal Taylor	Foreign Judgment
Saber Acceptance Co., v. Tierra Mays	Petition
Brandee Beaver v. Dustin Harjo	Petition
Laura Mort v. Muscogee Creek Nation	Petition
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Starla Plum	Foreign Judgment
Ladonna Howard v. Kenneth Crenshaw	Petition
Covington Credit v. Daniel Wind	Small Claims
Faust Corporation v. Erik Zurita	Foreign Judgment

Divorce:

Teresa Lovin v. Leonard Lovin	Divorce
George Doyle v. Pauline Doyle	Divorce
Jackie Jones v. Vicky Jones	Divorce
Benny Fixico Jr., v. Colleen Fixico	Divorce
Paulette Manus v. Johnnie Manus	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Melanie Artussee v. Jamaal Hogshooter	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Elizabeth Geesaman v. Bryan Geesaman	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Montana LaRue v. Robert LaRue	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Heather Wilson v. William Ziegler	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Cindy Arechiga v. George Proctor	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Suzanne Hicks v. Franchette Coody	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Elwood Pipestom-Ott v. Regina Pipestom-Ott	Child Support

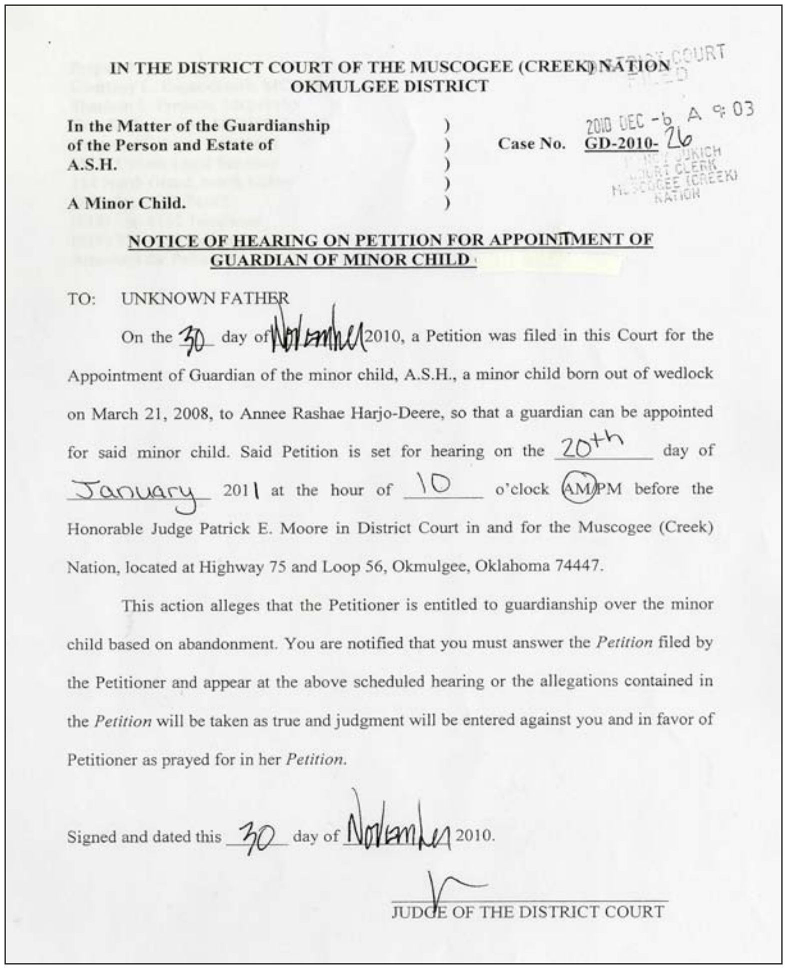
Ex-Parte:

Cindy Arechiga v. Erika Harjo	Ex-Parte
Lisa Tiger v. Gabriel Ramirez	Ex-Parte
Becky Lindsey v. Sam Osborne	Ex-Parte
John Morgan & minor children v. Laura Morgan	Ex-Parte
Marilyn Dunson v. Ray Herrera	Ex-Parte
Nell English v. Frank Scott	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Geneva Colbert	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Lawanta Thompson	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Reqs.
MCN v. Tommy Pickering	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Nellie Hallum	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Nancy Winters	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Johnathan Tiger aka Jimmy Jones	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Edna Belcher	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Minnie Louise Mitchell	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Anita Sanchez	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Eric Yahola	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Lewis Turner Yahola	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Star Fields	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. David Long III	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Georgia Frye	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Jessina Brown	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Darrin Bell	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Melba Williams	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Dianna Williams	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Michael Coon	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Newman Frank	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements

November 2010 court filings will be continued in the Feb. 1, 2011 edition of the MNN



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2010 DEC -6 A 9:03
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In the Matter of the Guardianship
of the Person and Estate of
A.S.H.

A Minor Child.

Case No. GD-2010-26

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILD

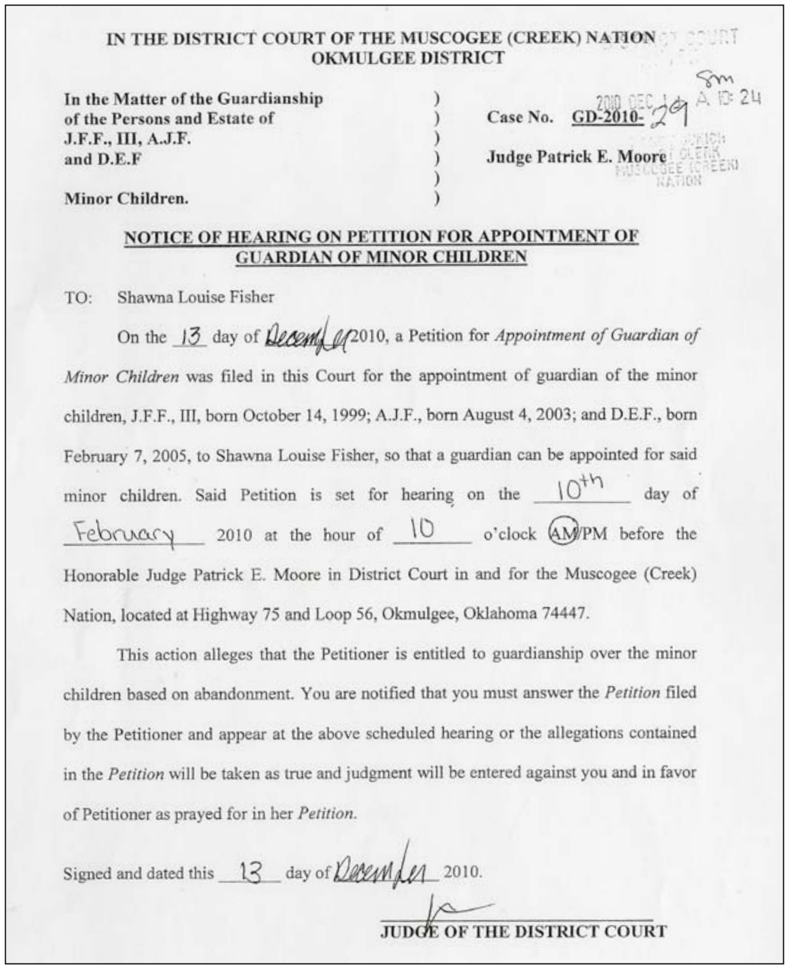
TO: UNKNOWN FATHER

On the 30 day of November 2010, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Appointment of Guardian of the minor child, A.S.H., a minor child born out of wedlock on March 21, 2008, to Annee Rashae Harjo-Deere, so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor child. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 20th day of January 2011 at the hour of 10 o'clock [✓ AM]/PM before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Signed and dated this 30 day of November 2010.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2010 DEC 14 A 10:24
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

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In the Matter of the Guardianship
of the Persons and Estate of
J.F.F., III, A.J.F.
and D.E.F

Minor Children.

Case No. GD-2010-29

Judge Patrick E. Moore

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILDREN

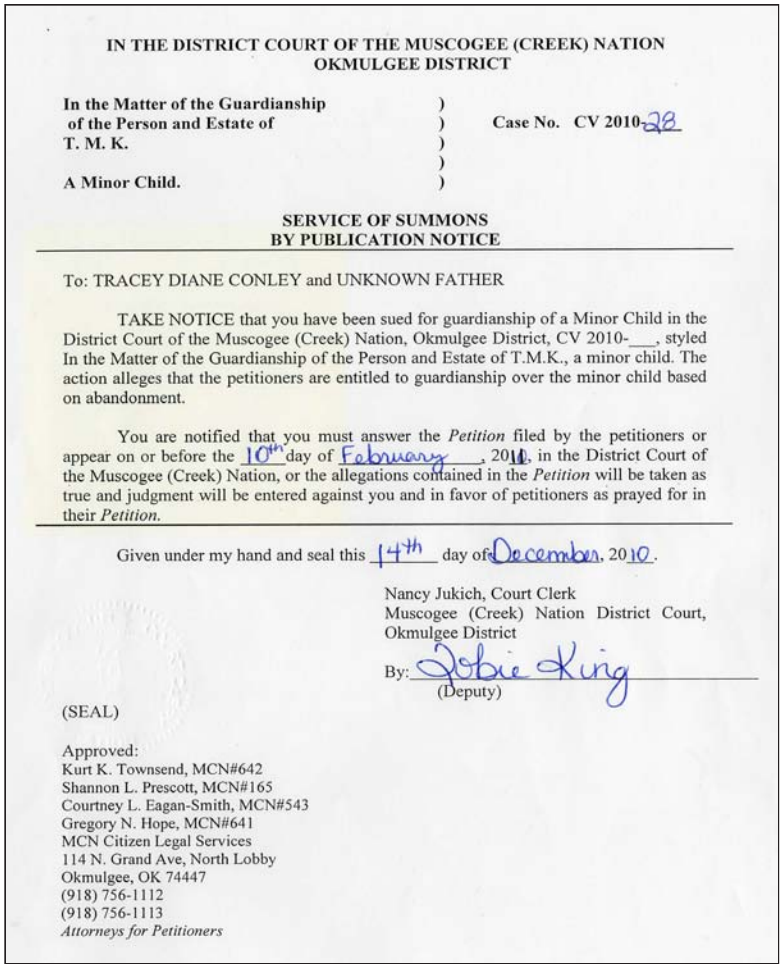
TO: Shawna Louise Fisher

On the 13 day of December 2010, a Petition for *Appointment of Guardian of Minor Children* was filed in this Court for the appointment of guardian of the minor children, J.F.F., III, born October 14, 1999; A.J.F., born August 4, 2003; and D.E.F., born February 7, 2005, to Shawna Louise Fisher, so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor children. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 10th day of February 2010 at the hour of 10 o'clock [✓ AM]/PM before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Signed and dated this 13 day of December 2010.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship
of the Person and Estate of
T. M. K.

A Minor Child.

Case No. CV 2010-28

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: TRACEY DIANE CONLEY and UNKNOWN FATHER

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, CV 2010-___, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of T.M.K., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioners or appear on or before the 10th day of February, 2011, in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioners as prayed for in their *Petition*.

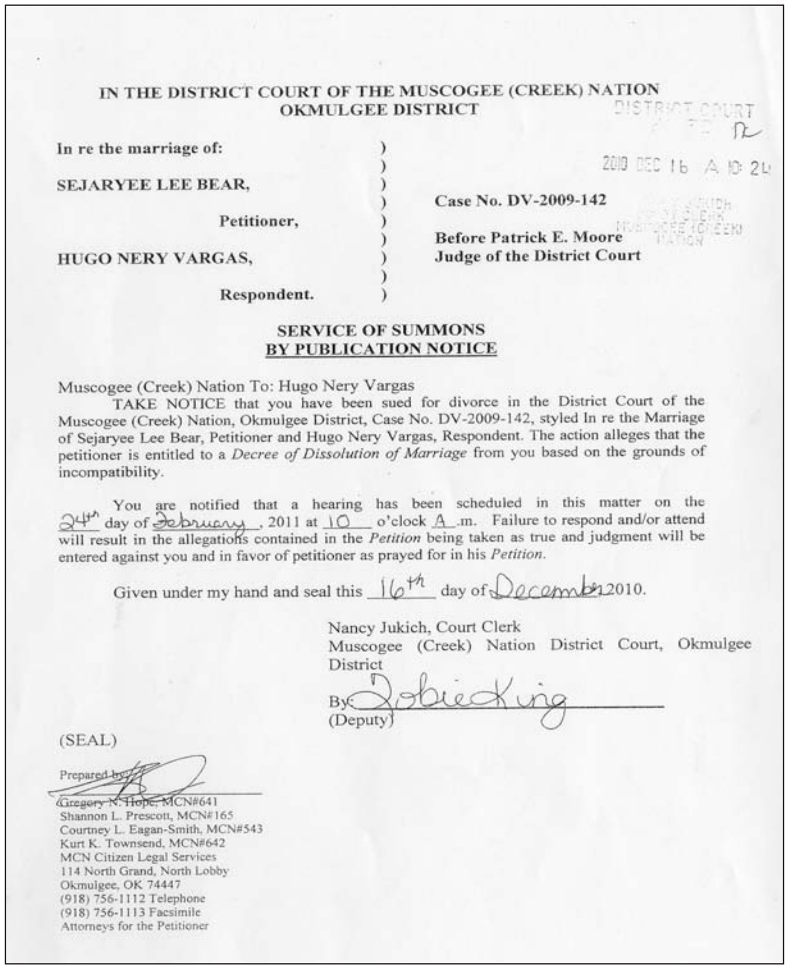
Given under my hand and seal this 14th day of December, 2010.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Tobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioners



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2010 DEC 16 A 10:24
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the marriage of:

SEJARYEE LEE BEAR,

Petitioner,

HUGO NERY VARGAS,

Respondent.

Case No. DV-2009-142

Before Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Hugo Nery Vargas

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2009-142, styled In re the Marriage of Sejaryee Lee Bear, Petitioner and Hugo Nery Vargas, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that a hearing has been scheduled in this matter on the 24th day of February, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 16th day of December 2010.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Tobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Prepared by:
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for the Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko.

Most people are familiar with the first few words in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s famous speech, "I have a dream. . ." One of my favorite lines from his address is found toward the end.

"With this faith, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood," he states.

We can all take something from these poignant words, no matter our race, however, the struggles faced by the African-Americans often parallel those of Indian people.

With the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day this month, it is a great time to reflect on the strides made by Native leaders that have had an impact on Indian Country and beyond.

In a 1906 address to the U.S. Senate, famed Muscogee (Creek) rebel leader Chitto Harjo reminded senators of the treaties and the security they promised.

"This was the first agreement that we had with the white man. He said as long as the sun rises it shall last; as long as the waters run it shall last; as long as the grass grows it shall last," Harjo stated.

We know today that there were many promises made and broken by the federal government, but the passion of our leaders helped us hold on to our culture during a tumultuous period in history.

Let us not forget their words and the fervor behind them.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop

Staff
Veterans Affairs Service Office

The Veterans' Scoop will feature articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Veterans urged to sign up for direct deposit

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefits by March 1, 2013. Officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) urge Veterans to sign up for electronic payment of their benefits.

"Receiving VA benefits electronically will increase the security, convenience and reliability of these vital payments," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "VA encourages Veterans who are now receiving their benefits in paper checks to set up direct deposits before the deadline."

On March 1, 2013, VA will stop issuing paper checks. People who do not have electronic payments for their federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card. Called the Direct Express card, it is issued by Comerica Bank as the financial agent of the U.S. Treasury.

Another deadline affects people receiving VA's compensation or pensions for the first time after May 1, 2011. Those people will automatically receive the benefits electronically.

Anyone already receiving federal benefit payments electronically will be unaffected by the changes. To learn more about the federal government's switch to direct deposit – or to change VA benefits to direct deposit -- visit www.GoDirect.org. Information about the federal government's "Go Direct" campaign is also available at 1-800-333-1795.

Along with payments for VA benefit, the change will also affect recipients of payments from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management.

For more information about VA benefits and programs, go to www.va.gov or call toll free 1-800-827-1000.

COLA adjustments made to social security benefits in 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Social Security Administration has announced that no cost-of-living adjustments will be made to Social Security benefits in 2011 because the consumer price index has not risen since 2008 when the last Social Security increase occurred.

Like recipients of Social Security and other federal benefits, Veterans, their families and survivors will also not see a cost-of-living adjustment in 2011 to their compensation and pension benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Under federal law, the cost-of-living adjustments to VA's compensation and pension rates are the same percentage as for Social Security benefits.

VA provides compensation and pension benefits to about four million Veterans and beneficiaries. For more information about VA benefits, go to www.va.gov or call 1-800-827-1000.

Creek couple celebrate 65 years

MNN/*Gerald Wofford*

Pictured above are Helen and Phillip Coon who recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary at the local Okmulgee Creek Indian Community Center. Phillip Coon is a survivor of the Battaan Death March and World War II veteran.

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

OKMULGEE — December was a special month for Phillip and Helen Coon, as it marked their 65th wedding anniversary. The couple was honored at a special ceremony and luncheon at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center on Friday, Dec. 17.

"We really appreciate the Okmulgee Indian Community doing this," said son Mike Coon who was in attendance, "although Mom and Dad live in Sapulpa, they just feel so honored that this community would do this for them because we have so many friends here."

Helen Coon was asked to comment about her life, marriage and the success of it, and simply attributed it all to a higher power. "Well, 65 years has been a long time," she says half jokingly, "I said this morning the Lord has been good to me and I don't why he let me live this long, but I have. Our success is that we stayed in church and we never left it, that's where our hearts have always been, in the church."

The couple has not only been visible in church activities, but with the Creek Nation as well, with Phillip garnering must of the attention. The tribe has honored and recognized Phillip as a World War II veteran and a Battaan Death March survivor, but it was upon his arrival home that he and the former Helen Simmer, from Cromwell, decided to tie the knot.

Helen and Phillip were from the same town, the city of Okemah, but never knew each other until their school years at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas. "They began dating there and soon knew they were the couple for each other," says Mike who is also thankful for the positive attributes they gave him as well, "they made such a big impact on my life. They just put it out there that when you start anything, make sure that you finish. They always told me never to be a quitter, so I made sure I instilled that in my family as well."

What also made the ceremony so unique was that it was topped with Phillip giving his bride a new wedding ring. The reason for presenting a new ring was a story in itself. "When I was growing up, we always had family staying over," explained Mike.

"One morning Mom was getting up to put her ring on and it was gone and she's not the kind of person that would blame anyone because that's the kind of person she is. She never replaced it and she went on for many years without a ring, which didn't bother her. When Dad heard about the ceremony that they were going to have for him and Mom, he said 'Your Mom needs a new ring,' and so that is what he is going to do today, to present her with a new one," Mike said.

The gold ring has diamonds inlaid on the top, and the crowd was very excited when he presented it to her. The Coon Family will also have another special event to honor Phillip during the month of May. The Oklahoma State Legislature will acknowledge Philip as the 'Veteran of the Week' and will make the announcement on the floor of the Senate Chambers in the State Capitol Building in Oklahoma City on May 9, 2011.

Learn

Continued from A1

The décor incorporates Mvskoke culture and was designed by Beck Design of Tulsa and constructed by Nabholz Construction.

Native American Student Association President Rayshell Shabies welcomed the crowd and gave a student perspective of this historic event.

"We are very proud, proud to have such a wonderful community. Today we are dedicating our college to our community, our students and our future leaders . . .Our leaders show us where we need to go and they also show us what we can do," Shabies said.

CMN Board of Regents Member Ramona Mason said a prayer in the Mvskoke language and CMN President Robert Bible addressed those in attendance after expressing his thanks to numerous tribal, local and state agencies connected to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

According to Bible, the next step in the process of building a brighter Mvskoke Nation is to add student housing and continuing to acquire grants and funding for further expansion.

Board of Regents Member Mike Flud discussed that the acquisition of the property from the neighboring Green Country Technology Center took some time and was made possible with help from multiple entities and the tribe's gaming revenue.

"The creation of this college was Chief Ellis' dream. . . None of this would have been possible, none, without the support and funding from our National Council," Flud stated.

Remarks from Vice Chairman of the CMN Board of Regents Dr. C. Blue Clarke provided a brief history of Mvskoke people and their ability to adapt and progress despite being surrounded by adversity.

"It is an amazing, amazing accomplishment . . . from prehistory through our more immediate ancestors in homeland of the southeast who survived Spanish wars and privation as well as the Trail of Tears traumas, to our immediate kinfolk in Indian Territory who reestablished the Muscogee Nation and its educational system after removal, after the Civil War, after allotment and statehood, all the way to the host of dedicated and visionary persons who steered long discussions to what is before us today. It is amazing. . . Mvskoke people are blessed people. We would not be here today after all our ancestors have been through if that were not true." Clarke said.

Clarke said these classrooms will be home to discussion from people from all backgrounds and each will have a voice.

"I am reminded of the annual ceremonialism of the Mvskolvke as well as the ancient Creek Confederacy. Diverse people come together to work for the common good, to renew themselves, to maintain balance within the universe and believe me, this universe needs some balance - It is similar in the classrooms of the College of the Muscogee Nation."

Clarke went on to mention that the opening of the doors of this institution will unlock opportunities for generations of Mvskokes to come.

"This event establishes unique opportunities and challenges for the citizens of the Muscogee Nation. Not only is there an opportunity for higher education through the college, there is also an opportunity for elementary and secondary education because state and federal governments are suffering extreme budget tension. There could conceivably be Muscogee Nation chartered schools across the state, across the nation, across the world. Those opportunities, in turn, raise the question, 'Where do Mvskoke people want our college and with it, our tribal nation to be in five years, 10 years, 20 years, in the far future?'" he added.

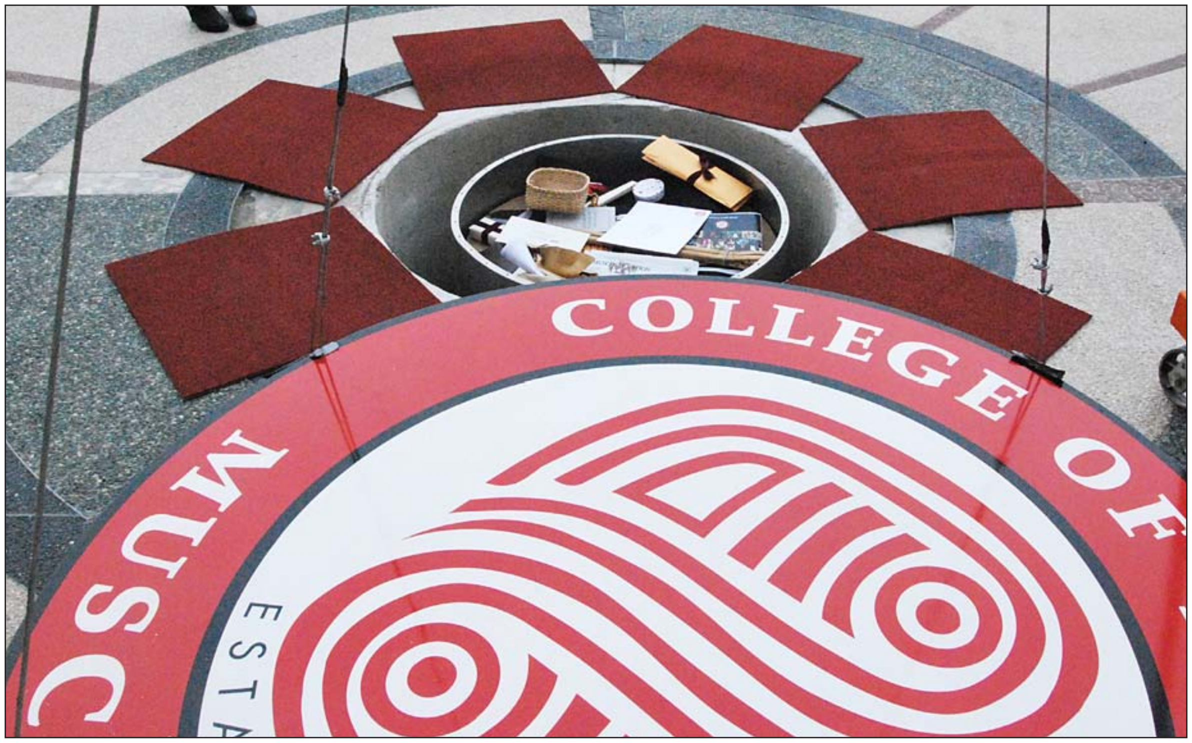
Dr. James King, CMN Regional Director of Institutional Effectiveness commented on the filling of the time capsule, which will be opened on the CMN's 50th anniversary. Items donated from Mvskoke citizens included an MCN car tag, a copy of the Muscogee Nation News, NASA photo album, T-shirts, blueprints, a calendar, ball sticks made by Ronnie Sands, a Mvskoke Bible and other documents pertinent to the opening of the CMN from students and staff.

"Our time capsule, as you see before you, marks the start of a new era of the College of the Muscogee Nation and has been built into the fabric of our first building. This is the centerpiece for our cultural plaza," King stated.

As part of the tour, CMN Business Manager Jan Hart commented that Mvskoke culture was the inspiration for the design of the building.

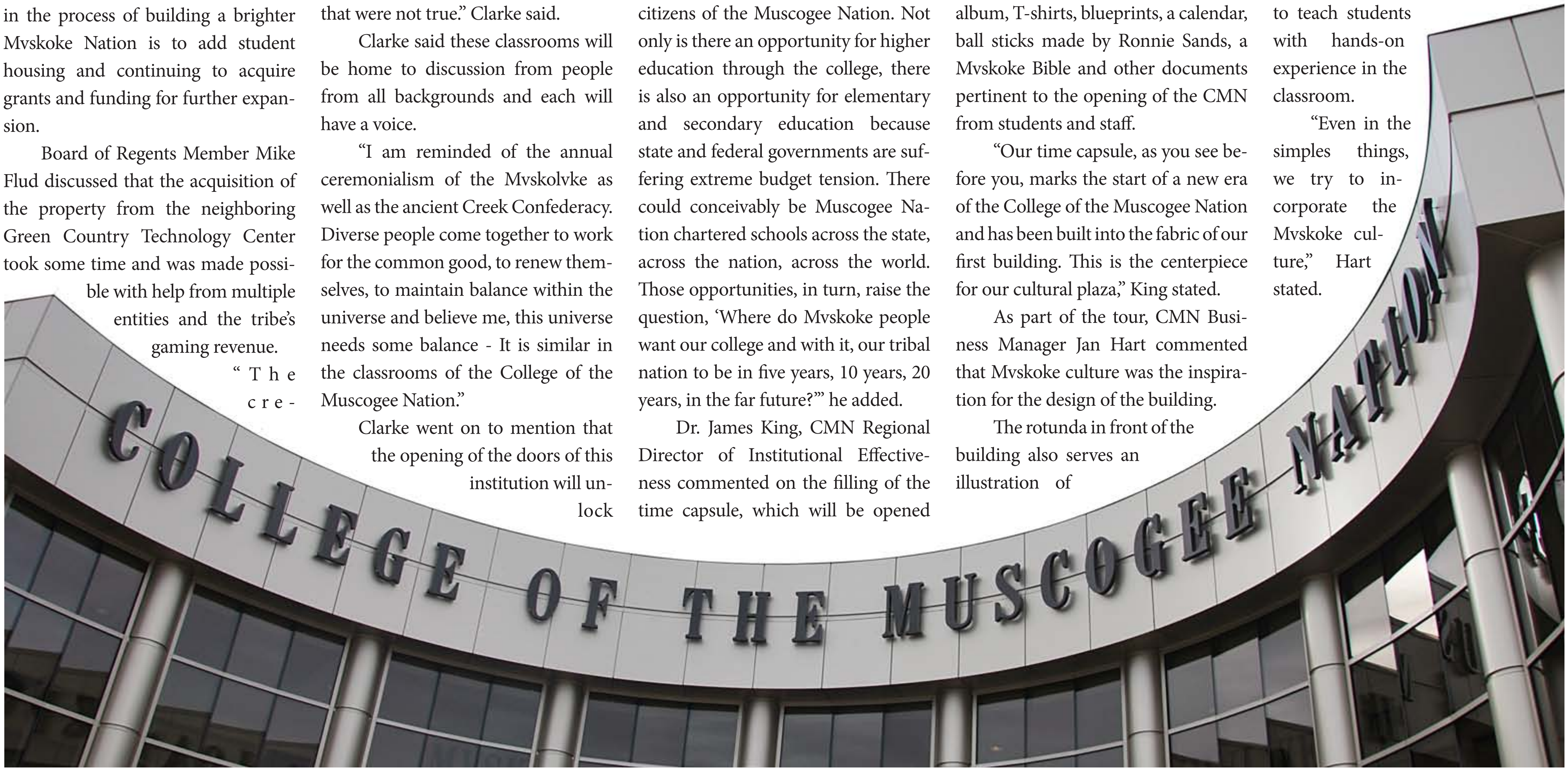
The rotunda in front of the building also serves an illustration of this with the 16 Mvskoke clans encircling the CMN seal. Other elements include tribally adorned lighting, smart boards and actual gaming tables to teach students with hands-on experience in the classroom.

"Even in the simples things, we try to incorporate the Mvskoke culture," Hart stated.



MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above is the College of the Muscogee Nation time capsule, which will be opened at the college's 50th anniversary.



JOM hosts 9th annual Career Day at OSUIT

Media Release
MCN Johnson O'Malley Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation/JOM Program hosted its 9th annual Career Day for middle school students Thursday, Jan. 13, 2011. The event was held at Covelle Hall at OSUIT with 23 schools represented.

Students filled the gym bleachers by 9 a.m., and kicked off the event with the "Indian Wave" which swept back and forth across the gym bleachers.

The students had the opportunity to speak directly to 20 presenters in careers ranging from health administration, automotive, child care, accounting, law enforcement, graphic arts and several others.

Many of the presenters were from different Muscogee (Creek) Nation programs which gave the students the opportunity to see native role models already in the profession that they are interested in. At times it looked as if the presenters were rock stars with the students mobbing them trying to ask questions and looking at their individual table displays.

Each student had a "passport" that had to be stamped by each presenter they visited. Once their "passport" was completed, they received a ticket for door prize drawings. The students also had the opportunity to have an up-close look at the Life Flight helicopter that landed in the parking lot next to Covelle Hall.

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Muscogee Nation News Intern Reporter Rachel Mayberry answered questions regarding tribal communications from JOM students from 23 middle schools across Okla., who visited the OSUIT campus for the 9th annual Career Day held at Covelle Hall Jan. 13, 2011.

Robert Frost, Chief Investigator for Okmulgee County, was the keynote speaker for the event. He gave a very clear view of drug and alcohol abuse and its consequences.

We would like to thank all of the presenters for their help in making this Career Day such a success.

For more information on Career Day or the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM Program, please contact the department at (918) 732 - 7843.

Division of Health now recruiting focus group participants

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for people to volunteer their time to participate in a focus group which will concentrate on patient experiences within Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers.

The goal is to gain information from the patient's experiences to create better processes and better patient outcomes.

If you are a patient, legal guardian of a patient, family member of a patient or concerned community member and you would like to participate in a focus group regarding Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers please contact Anne Edwards, Patient Advocacy Coordinator at (918) 756-3334 ext. 287, call 1-877-579-4911 or e-mail anne.edwards@creekhealth.org

LIHEAP and Tribal Energy assistance now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department offers two programs in the winter for heating assistance.

New participants may apply beginning Jan. 10, 2011. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2011, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries.

The Tribal Energy program is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits.

To apply for either of these programs, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 - 4 p.m. Offices are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn.: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please do not mail CDIB/citizenship cards or original documents.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to (918) 549-2494 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. Call Social Services at (918) 549-2445 to find out when we'll be in your area. Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal enrollment cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Driver's license for those without a tribal enrollment card

3) Gas bill OR Propane vendor OR Wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric. You may be asked to verify this.)

4) Copies of all income sources – this is for LIHEAP and Tribal Energy

5) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

6) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

7) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities and/or deposits.

8) Additional documentation may be required based on your individual situation.

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Muscogee (creek) Nation Social Services at (918) 549-2445 for additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 2445.

And Still the Waters Run: *Michelle Windes-Duff*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — My twin brother John and his wife Mary produced seven children in eight years. All of them are citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and many of the 16 grandchildren as well. I often think of Psalms 127:5, "How happy is the man who has his quiver full of them." I am equally blessed with five children, and 13 grandchildren.

My story this month concerns the youngest of those nephews and nieces. Her name is Michelle Windes Duff. I have chosen to write about Michele for numerous reasons, but primarily because she has lived the last four years in Kuwait & India. She may take the prize for the Creek who has lived furthermost from our tribal complex. Yet our culture has remained with her. Whether or not you live 10 or 10,000 miles from Okmulgee, it differs but little. It is where your heart is, where your ethics and culture derive from, which is the important thing.

Michelle was born in 1976 in Fullerton, California and raised in nearby Brea by her devout Catholic parents. Always surrounding her, were the stories and legends of her lineage to the Red Eagle, William Weatherford. As a child she tied to the Indian Free Health Clinic in Compton, Calif., which was under the direction of a relative by marriage, JoAnn Freeman. Also, see my article from September 2009: 'Josie's Bowl."

When plans for higher education were discussed, Michelle said 'NO' to the state-run colleges nearby. A "child of the forest," she wanted to dwell closer to mother nature. Her choice was Feather River College, located in the famed Sierra Nevada mountain range. She would finish up at Cal State Monterey Bay, Carmel Valley. She had sought a degree in English literature, humanities and teaching. With her goal achieved, she returned to the Southland. Soon she was attending the California Muscogee Creek Association, anxious to contribute in different ways, but especially interested in social advancement issues.

Photos courtesy/*George Windes*

Top: Michelle Windes Duff bonds with elephant in Hampi, India. Below: Michelle, eight months pregnant, with husband Mark.

Michelle met her soul mate, Mark Duff, being introduced by her sister Jeanene. Also a teacher, the couple looked at options to achieve the American dream of a home of their own. They were introduced to the idea of teaching English at the international level in remote places. The idea fermented.

From 2006 through 2008, they lived and taught in Medan Hawalli, Kuwait. Then, for a change in culture, they transferred to an International British school in Bangalore, India.

They were there for two years. Both assignments were exciting and broadening in nature.

In 2010 the Duffs found they were expecting their first child. They opted to return to the USA for the blessed event. They moved immediately to their first purchased home in historic Chico, Calif.

The International school in India offered only British insurance and they lost coverage by moved back to the U.S. Michelle had started prenatal care and was anxious to get a new policy in place in the states. The problem was the pre-existing condition, pregnancy.

She began calling around to some Indian venues near Chico in the foothills of the Sierras.

Eventually, she was invited to visit a state-of-the-art facility. Both of her cards, Muscogee (Creek) membership & C.D.I.B were reviewed. She was accepted for coverage for herself through the kindness of a California indigenous group. How great other native people reach out to Muscogee Creeks, since our tribal benefits don't reach the hundreds of Creeks living on the Pacific coast. Strong accolades to the generosity of such tribes.

I trust the favor is returned for non-Creek Indians living in eastern Oklahoma today.

The awaited arrival of Dona Pauline Duff was accomplished Dec. 3, 2010,

The beat of her tiny Native heart brought joy to many. She will be taught well.

As the economic situation easies, it's hoped a northern branch of the California Muscogee Creek Association will be born. Rest assured my niece Michelle would want to be part of it. As a teacher (a noble occupation), she could offer so much in teaching and nourishing our tribal youth. Their world must become a broader classroom, to keep the fire burning, as it were.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

Alaska-based Afognaks visit Euchee House

Melodie Reader
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Language program delegates from Native Village of Afognak of Kodiak, Alaska visited the Euchee House located at 1010 S. Main in Sapulpa, Okla., in order to gain insight into MCN language and immersion programs Dec. 2, 2010.

Guide Marcus Briggs-Cloud also escorted the visitors to the MCN Language Department and Creek Council House.

“We are visiting sites which will assist the delegates in the preparation of their immersion program,” said Marcus Briggs-Cloud.

The group also participated in language immersion exercises with Dr. Rosemary McCombs Maxey at her home on her allotment in Dustin, Okla., and were hosted twice for dinner and hymn singing by the Wilson Indian Community and Pickett Chapel Euchee Church, according to Briggs-Cloud.

Alaskan Afognak Tribal Delegate and language teacher Alisha Drabek gave a brief insight into Afognak tribal history and the purpose of the journey.

“Our town is about 6,500 people and we have seven villages, including the city of Kodiak, around our island with a total of 10 tribes of the Kodiak Alutiiq Nation,” said Drabek. “The island is about the size of the state of Rhode Island and is the largest island in the United States and is located on the southern central portion of Alaska.”

“We’re developing a language program for our tribe,” continued Drabek. “A group of dedicated teachers, myself and Susie Malutin, six years ago became Alutiiq language apprentices in a master apprentice program. We’ve been learning our language. We only have about 30 speakers living on the island that are fluent elders and about 10 of those are active in the language effort.”

The Afognak tribe was originally located on Afognak Island and destroyed during the Good Friday Earthquake of 1964. The surviving members relocated to either Port Lions, or Kodiak, Alaska, according to Drabek.

Additional Alaskan Afognak Language Program Delegates include Susie Malutin – Language Teacher, Kari Sherod – Afognak Language Program Manager, Julie Knagin – Afognak Councilwoman and Melissa Borton – Afognak Tribal Administrator.

The delegates toured the Euchee House and historic portions of Muscogee (Creek) Nation with Guide Marcus Briggs-Cloud, Euchee Language Project Director Richard Grounds and Language Bearer Renee Grounds of the Euchee House Immersion Program.

“My partner Tawna Little and I flew to Kodiak Island for a week-long journey of consultation in their homeland. From that visit, one of the continuous and primary concerns we heard from within the community was the fear of witnessing the extinction of their language.”

“I suggested they come to the MCN to visit the Euchee Language House, a community of Indigenous language speakers and learners that share similar demographics and struggles, in order to build a parallel model that optimistically will result in a successful language endeavor,” continued Briggs-Cloud.

Richard Grounds describes the delegates visit to the Euchee House Language Program and the important role a language immersion program plays.

“Our visitors from Afognak tried to figure out how to use limited resources to get the language from the elders who are fluent first language speakers to younger generations to keep the flow, the stream of the language going,” said Richard Grounds. “We have been working on those issues for a number of years, with a handful of Euchee elders. We work with them on a daily basis. They’re old enough now that we can’t ask them to work hands on with the little kids. So, we have a young adult learner group who acts as a go-between Language Bearer. They take the language, which is learned in the morning, everyday between 10 a.m., and noon and in the afternoon teach it to the kids.”

MNN/*Melodie Reader*

Alaskan Afognak Tribal members visit Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council House Dec. 2, 2010 during a visit to both MCN and Euchee Language Programs. Pictured from left are Julie Knagin, Melissa Borton, Kari Sherod,Marcus Briggs-Cloud, Richard Grounds, Alisha Drabek, Renee Grounds and Susie Malutin.

Renee Grounds is one such Language Bearer.

“I am honored to learn the Euchee language from our elders and be able to teach it to our younger generation,” said Renee Grounds. “It is a very important role to pass on the language, to keep it alive.”

The Euchee House has classes everyday with the elders present during those morning sessions.

“We use the language there. We teach the language there,” said Richard Grounds of the Euchee House. “We have access to the woods behind and the creek beside. So that gives us animals; red fox in the woods, beaver in the creek and raccoon in the trees. It’s a great learning tool for us.”

“If we really want our kids to learn to speak the language, the only way that has been shown to do that, is through immersion. By that, I mean talking all in the language. Instead of using English to teach the language, you use the tribal language to teach the language,” continued Grounds.

Drabek agrees, “As second language learners, while we are teaching, it’s very hard. Both Susie and I are basic fluency and we’re struggling with being put in the role of fluent speaker. Thankfully, our elders will be in the classroom and we will work it out.”

“Alisha works with the high school kids. Susie works with the younger kids and then we have the summer camp,” continued Borton. “While it’s not feasible at this time to do the entire camp in immersion, we can do activities within the day that can be immersion only. So, I think we’ve learned a lot and we will probably start doing some immersion classes soon.”

Malutin has done an extensive amount of field work over the last six years, and through her efforts, vocabulary lists have been created as well as a 40-lesson curriculum.

Malutin collected recordings from elders, Drabek edited them and they now have iPhone apps, flashcards and language and CDs with both dialects, and English translations so the listener can listen to the entire vocabulary.

“Students are coming into the program with basic words or phrases they know, such as ‘Hi’ or ‘How are you?,’ said Drabek. “None of our young families in Kodiak speak the language regularly anymore. Even in homes where there’s a fluent elder, it’s very rare to have anyone there speaking the language.”

The Afognak Language delegates are excited about the new program and hope to have it in their school system as a language credit course.

In its current form, it is a very basic language program targeted for kindergarten through fifth grade. Most of it is object identification, with some verbs, sentences and common phrases.

Malutin acknowledges that the language immersion program will be a success through the help of the elders, as most of the fluent speakers are over the age of 75 and parents.

“We’re trying to expose different age groups to the native language,” said Malutin. “This requires commitment, not only from the elders and teachers, but from the students and parents as well.”

For more information on the Alaskan Afognak tribe, please visit www.afognak.org.

The Euchee House hosts a daily community language class between 10 a.m., and 12 p.m., and a daily after-school immersion program.

For more information on the Euchee House, please call Richard Grounds at (918) 224-6481.

FEATURES

SECTION B

Jan. 15, 2011 edition

Bulldogs tackled 2010

• Creeks impact local high school football program

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

WETUMKA — Creek athletes and coaches made their mark in the year of 2010, especially in football where a Creek coach in Wagoner and a Creek player in Wetumka added to that declaration.

Coach Micco Charboneau was a member of the Wagoner football coaching staff and helped the Bulldogs to a 13-1 record this past fall. The Muscogee (Creek) citizen helped mentor the defensive line of Wagoner and contributed to a outstanding season that saw the Bulldogs go undefeated. Wagoner cruised through the playoffs, making it to the class 4A state championship in a classic match up with Oklahoma City Douglas that went into overtime before Douglas won it with a score of 20-13.

The championship game was played in Nov., and the loss, with good reason, is still tough to take. “My son and I were watching TV the other night and the local cable station was showing the replay of our championship game,” said the sixth year coach. “It was just too painful to watch and we ended up just turning the television off.”

Photo Courtesy/Micco Charboneau

Pictured above are Wagoner Coach Micco Charboneau, center, with his kids Kaden and Kale, right, and Collin and Kendra Condict, left, who are the children of Wagoner Head Coach, Dale Condict.

The temporary setback doesn’t diminish the Creek coach’s commitment to the Wagoner athletic program, though. Charboneau was raised in Wagoner and attended public schools there his whole life, and after finishing a high school athletic career that included football, wrestling and baseball, Charboneau went on to play baseball at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

After college, Charboneau was able to find a job at American Airlines, but it was not exactly what he wanted to be doing for the rest of his life. He had just gotten married and his wife Randi was a teacher a Wagoner. Charboneau decided to go back to school and get his teaching degree. Once he did, there was no other choice for him but to teach and coach at his alma mater, and fortunately, there was an opening. “It’s always been a dream for me to come back here and be a part of all this,” says Charboneau, “I grew up here and just to be doing this is a blessing.”

Charboneau will always remember this year as one of the most memorable in his life, particular because of the personality of this team. “There was no individual - it was all about the team, everyone came together to make this a great year!” Charboneau is also proud of his Creek roots. His uncle is Tulsa District National Council Second Speaker Sam Alexander.

SEE BULLDOG - B2

2011 MCN election dates released

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released dates for the upcoming 2011 elections for Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don’t receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685)

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town elections set for Jan. 29

Media Release
Thlopthlocco Election Board

OKEMAH — Thlopthlocco Tribal Town will conduct officer elections Jan. 29, 2011 at the Okfuskee County Fair Barn. Registration is from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m., with elections at 10:15 a.m.

Photo ID is required. Voters must be 21 years of age by Jan. 29, 2011 in order to vote.

For more information, please call (918) 560-6108.

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country: *Rvfo ‘Cuse,* “Winter’s Younger Brother”

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MCN Pecan-Picking event

Honor what is
SACRED
Quit Commercial Tobacco

B4 PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Emergency Management

Mvskoke
New Testament Bible
Creek-Seminole Language
order online: www.mvskokebible.com
Steve Randall
(918) 704-3738
Wiyo Publishing Company

B6 PEOPLE

Obituary: Jon Mical Riley

B7 PEOPLE

Birth: Emmalee Smith

Mvskoke Country: *Rvfo 'Cuse,* "Winter's Younger Brother"

by James Treat

Last month I took the arrival of "Big Winter" as an occasion for exploring seasonal divisions in *cokv-walv Mvskoke*. This time-honored calendar synthesizes the astronomical and ecological knowledge our agrarian forebears found to be useful.

Based on evidence from the Mvskoke language, from Muskogean oral tradition, and from other indigenous and scientific calendars around the world, I suggested that the traditional Mvskoke calendar recognized only three seasons: *meskē,* "summer"; *rvfo*, "winter"; and *tasahcē,* "spring."

Yet the most compelling evidence for a three-season year may be present in the calendar itself, in the naming and arrangement of the twelve *hvse*. This unmistakable pattern can be made apparent by considering the current month.

The name was formed by modifying the word *rvfo*, "winter," with a contraction of the noun *ecuse*, "his/her younger sibling of the same sex" (to put this another way, *ecuse* can mean either "his younger brother" or "her younger sister," depending on the gender of the older sibling).

So the seventh month of the Mvskoke year is *Rvfo 'Cuse,* which has been rendered in English as "Winter's Younger Brother" since the earliest written account of Mvskoke months, in 1791. (This designation also implies that winter is male in Mvskoke country, though that information gets lost in translation.)

Like other months in *cokv-walv* Mvskoke, it has a counterpart in the annual cycle—in this case, the previous month: *Rvfo-Rakko*, "Big Winter."

If you've been following this monthly series on the Mvskoke calendar, then you've probably noticed the recurring pattern of complementary months. Along with big winter and his younger brother, the yearlong sequence also includes little and big harvest, little and big chestnut-thrashing, little and big spring, and a pair of *hvse* named for edible fruits, mulberry and blackberry.

You might even say that the calendar incorporates an intermediate unit of time, longer than a month but shorter than a season, a kind of double-month or half-season.

This strikes me as an unusual way to track the passage of time, with no clear basis in natural phenomena. And I have come across only one other American Indian calendar organized around this distinctive practice.

The traditional Mohawk calendar comprises six pairs of complementary months: cold and big cold, lateness and much lateness, budding and big leaf, ripening and much ripening, freshness and much freshness, and poverty and much poverty. The pattern of repetition is even more obvious in the original language.

It seems unlikely that our Mvskoke ancestors would have borrowed this scheme from the Mohawks, who speak an unrelated tongue and live in a much cooler climate. So what is the significance of this dyadic structure, these coupled *hvse*?

We should bear in mind that every system of timekeeping has a cultural dimension. Any calendar is a human invention; there is always a subjective aspect to the human gaze. Simply put, no description of nature can be completely natural. Objectivity remains beyond our grasp; what matters is usefulness—not just in a practical sense, but also in symbolic terms, as a real expression of meaning and value.

While it may be based on astronomical and ecological observations, *cokv-walv* Mvskoke is also deeply rooted in a particular world view. And a prominent feature of that world view, some would say, is the provisional dualism evident throughout traditional Mvskoke culture.

This conceptual orientation is highlighted in a recent book on Mvskoke traditions by Jean and Joyotpaul Chaudhuri. *A Sacred Path: The Way of the Muscogee Creeks* explores "the Creek mind," explaining how dualist thought functions in every area of Mvskoke life: cosmology, oral tradition, politics, subsistence, gender relations, and elsewhere.

The many twin stories, for example, present two boys with divergent personalities, whose actions dramatize "the need for balancing the diversity of human qualities so that out of the sharing of reciprocal but empirically different energies the unity of the spirit and the community would occur." One version of the corn woman story teaches, among other things, "the shared cycle of human and natural energy" and the "partnership" between corn and beans that helps maintain nutritional balance.

Whereas dualism in the Western intellectual tradition typically involves two principles that are opposed and irreducible, Mvskoke dualities are ultimately resolved in the unity of nature and of *Epofvnkv*, the universal source of energy.

And so it is that the complementary months of *cokv-walv* Mvskoke express a cultural commitment to harmony and cooperation, especially in the context of a three-season year.

Summer solstice may signal the end of one year and the beginning of another, but marking seasonal change according to the other astronomical turning points would break apart three pairs of coupled *hvse*: fall equinox occurs at the transition from little to big chestnut-thrashing; winter solstice separates big winter from his younger brother; and spring equinox divides little and big spring.

Observing three seasons of four months each, however, only enhances the order and balance of this elegant calendrical system: *meskē*, "summer" – little and big harvest, little and big chestnut-thrashing; *rvfo*, "winter" – frost, big winter and winter's younger brother, wind; and *tasahcē*, "spring" – little and big spring, mulberry and blackberry.

A memorable formulation of Mvskoke environmental wisdom.

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments, as well as your suggestions. You can reach me by e-mail at treaty@illinois.edu

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Bulldog

Continued from B1

For Defensive Lineman Taylor Freeman, the year could be defined as a break through in so many ways. Freeman was a part of the Wetumka High School Football Team where the Muscogee (Creek) citizen helped take his team, nicknamed the Chieftains, to the state playoffs. The city of Wetumka had not seen their Chieftain high school team in the state finals in 40 years but for Freeman, the great season almost never happened.

Taylor Freeman

According to Wetumka Athletic Director Brent McGee who was Head Football Coach two years ago, Taylor's Mother Sheila, had a lot to do with him becoming the player he is today. "Two years ago when he was a sophomore, he wasn't even planning on coming out to play football. He was working out and everything, but didn't seem to want to play," says McGee, "but his mother encouraged him to do so."

According to Sheila, it wasn't just 'encouragement' but more like an 'ultimatum'. "I told him, 'you are going to play a sport, you just need to pick one,'" said Sheila. It can be baseball, basketball, football but you are going to play a sport!"

Wetumka boasts 1,451 citizens and is classified as Class B, according to the Oklahoma Secondary School Association because of the small enrollment. This effects the number of players that actually come out and play the sport. The traditional number of players on a football team is 11, but teams in Class B are allowed to field eight players. This smaller number in no way diminishes the talent, skill, and desire of the players that take to the field and compete. In fact, the ability of Wetumka Chieftains to reach the playoffs speaks volumes of a team that saw many mountains but took them all on one at a time. One of those mountains was facing local rival Weleetka; the Chieftains hadn't been able to defeat the Outlaws in 23 years!

All that the Chieftains achieved as a team may be attributed to players like Freeman who also garnered the awards for this year as well. He was All-District Offensive Lineman of the Year as well as nominated for Offensive Lineman in the State. Taylor did make 8-Man All-State and the 11-Man All-State, in which 4 Class B and Class C boys are chosen and will compete in the all-state game in the summer.

McGee adds that Taylor is a natural to the sport, "And being 6'3" and weighing 280 helps a lot too," laughs McGee.

Taylor, who is a senior, plans to continue to play football at the college level. Taylor's younger brother, Joseph, is following his brother's footsteps on the gridiron as well.

It was a good year for high school football this year and Creek athletes like Taylor Freeman and coaches like Mekko Charboneau help keep it that way.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MFSI 3rd annual Food Sovereignty Symposium

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative will host the third annual Food Sovereignty Symposium Feb. 18 - 19, 2011. This event is free and open to all.

Program details may be obtained at MFSI 208 W. 6th Street, Okmulgee, Okla., or at (918) 756-5915 or e-mail mvskokefood@gmail.com

Glenpool N.A.S.A. 8th annual Stompdance

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool Native American Student Association will be hosting a Stomp dance Jan. 29, 2011 at the Glenpool Creek Indian Community building located off HWY 75 & 141st Street (Behind the smoke shop) from 7 p.m., to midnight. Participants are asked to bring thier own chairs.

For more information, contact Kristi Collington at (918) 322-3823 ext. 560 or 568. Booths are free with an item donation.

Benefit bingo and food sale

HANNA — A bingo will take place on Jan. 22, 2011 to benefit Susie Harjo. Concession will open at 5 p.m., and will feature hamburgers, hotdogs, etc.

The bingo will begin at 7 p.m. The cost is $10 per pack and $2 per special games. Bingo will be held at the Hannah Indian Community Center located three miles east of the Hanna Post Office.

For more information call (918) 657-2307 or Lucy Harjo at (918) 657-2381.

OIC scholarship now available

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Clinic Education Committee is now accepting scholarship applications for the Spring 2011 semester. The applicant or parent of the applicant must be an active member of the community and be either a part-time for full-time student.

For more information, please call (918) 758-0970, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. - noon.

2011 MCN Festival dates

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

For more information, contact T&R at (918) 732-7992.

2011 MCN Festival sponsorship opportunities now available

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee invites any and all parties interested in joining the celebration to become a sponsor of the MCN Festival.

Sponsorships are available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization. For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

Little Cussetah UMC Wild Onion Dinner

SAPULPA —The Little Cussetah United Methodist Church will host a Wild Onion Dinner

Saturday, April 2, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Meals are $8 a plate.

For more information, contact Marissa Dobson.

Eufaula Indian Community meeting

EUFAULA —The Eufaula Indian Community will meet Thursday, Jan. 27, 2011, at Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church at 6 p.m.

For more information, contact L. Floyd at (918) 617-5416

Concharty UMC Wild Onion Dinner

OKMULGEE —The Concharty United Methodist Church will host a Wild Onion Dinner Saturday, March 26, 2011 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Adults and take-out orders will be $8 and children 12 and under will be $5.

The church is located at 19040 Garfield Road, in Okmulgee (4 Miles north of Interstate Highway 16 on Bixby Road and one mile east on Garfield Road).

For more information, call (918) 366-8450 or send e-mail to: info@kvncate.com

MCN Pecan-Picking event set for Jan. 29-30

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens are invited to a Pecan Picking event at the Creek Nation Pecan Grove, located north of the MCN Tribal Complex, Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 29-30, 2011 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., weather-permitting.

For more information, contact the Tribal Affairs Department at (918) 732-7700 or visit http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Mandatory MCN Challenge Bowl volunteer training session set for Jan. 27

MORRIS — The Muscogee (Creek Nation) Challenge Bowl will be holding a mandatory training session Thursday, Jan. 27 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Morris.

It is mandatory to come for the training if you are going to be a volunteer, due to the new location, rules and assignments. Lunch will be provided.

The church is located on the north side of Interstate Highway 62, 5.4 from U.S. Highway 75 (Wood Drive).

Dates for the competition are Feb. 3 for high school, Feb. 10 for middle school and Feb. 17 for elementary school.

For more information, contact Melinda Deeringwater (918) 549-2521.

MSFI Mobile Resource Unit visits Bristow in Jan.

BRISTOW — MFSI will be hosting a food heritage class and distributing free information to farmers and ranchers in the Bristow area Jan. 28-29.

For more information, contact Melodie Reader, Communications, Marketing & Research Coordinator or Dicey Barnett at (918) 756-5915.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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Cynthia Tainpeah Muscogee Creek Nation

MCN Emergency Management to the rescue: fire, ice and everything in between

Rachel Mayberry
MCN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens, whom have formerly remained heavily involved with firefighting and emergency response management, aren't seeking such skills and job opportunities in recent years, according to a statement released from Claude Sumner, Muscogee Nation executive director.

James Nichols, Muscogee Nation Emergency Management coordinator, said the Nation's Emergency Response team has been established for more than a year and is part of the overall Emergency Management team.

"A big reason for having our Emergency Response team is to fill in the positions that were needed to assist in a major disaster such as fire, flood, electrical power outages and ice storms that before hand Muscogee Nation's Emergency Management Division would be understaffed for," Nichols said.

Nichols said 20 members belong to the team.

"We are all trained in CPR, first aid, AED, and emergency response to swift water rescue," Nichols said. "We train for shelter operations, search and rescue operations and incident command training."

Nichols said the response team covers anything from wildfires, floods, ice storms, tornadoes, and "search and rescue" for missing persons.

"We are also trained in house fires, car accidents and gas leaks," Nichols said. "Many different things can be covered under the Emergency Management team."

The Emergency Management department has Points of Distribution Sites (PODS) throughout the Nation's jurisdiction. Those sites are equipped with cots and sleeping bags, work lights, flashlights, first aid supplies, toiletry items and miscellaneous supplies.

"If a shelter is to be opened in a community we will use supplies from the closet POD and then look to our other PODs, if additional things are needed," Nichols said.

Nichols said if a shelter is opened, the team will provide food and drink, along with places to sleep.

"We ask that the community members help run the shelter due to the lack of man-power during disasters," Nichols said. "All of our shelter sites are capable of being backed up with generator power as well, if needed."

Nichols said Emergency Management has a trailer that is used for a mobile command center. It can be used for several purposes such as an incident command, a warming or cooling station, a first aid station and more. If it is used as a command trailer, all personnel would gather there to get assignments and those in charge would stay there to manage the incident.

"We were lucky to have been funded by the tribal council when they saw the need to be met and try to use that budget only for what we need," Nichols said. "We let it build up year by year, instead of having to deal with financial loss in the department for essential things to keep us running."

Within the Oklahoma region, there is an Inter-Tribal Emergency Management Coalition started six years ago.

"We meet monthly to discuss training opportunities for tribal emergency management, share knowledge and experience, and host an annual conference every year to bring all the tribal emergency managers together, including county, state, federal and city partners that we work with on a daily basis," Nichols said.

Robert Nix, Timber Stand Improvement supervisor and Bureau of Indian Affairs forester, said the most important aspect of his work as an emergency firefighter for BIA is being prepared at all times.

Nix has worked with BIA since 2007.

"In college I was accepted into the National Center for Cooperative Education program with BIA while attending Oklahoma State University," Nix said.

Nix said the NCCE program offered tuition assistance, summer employment, health benefits and employment opportunity after graduation.

"This program has been the stepping stone of my career with BIA," Nix said. "I highly recommend this program to any Native American student whom is interested in pursuing a Bachelor's degree in the natural resource field."

Nix said he is from Morris, Okla., and graduated from Oklahoma State University with a bachelor's degree in forestry.

"OSU has an excellent Forestry department that provided me with the knowledge and skills necessary to become a professional forester," Nix said. "The experience I gained while attending OSU was outstanding and has played a tremendous part in my work as a forester."

OSU's Forestry department is now known as the Natural Resources and Ecology Management department, or NREM.

Nix was contacted by the Supervisory Forester of BIA's Growth and Management sector, Ron Miller, and offered a forester position at the Fort Apache Agency, in Whiteriver, Ariz., on the White Mountain Apache Reservation, consisting of 1.68 million acres in the eastern part of the state.

Nix said his experience at the Fort Apache Agency has been great so far.

"I started at Fort Apache agency as a forester and that is still my current position," Nix said. "My duties and responsibilities have increased as my grade series have increased."

Nix said he is also currently the supervisor of a work team known as the Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) crew.

"The TSI crew of 30 personnel is basically a chainsaw crew that does pre-commercial thinning on the White Mountain Apache Reservation," Nix said. "I coordinate the work activities of the TSI crew to insure the best utilization of their time."

Nix said he also directs thinning activities to insure proper coverage of the area, instructs the crew on implementation of thinning, piling or marking guidelines, assists in applying these guidelines in difficult situations, and performs thinning checks to insure thinning is complete and according to guidelines.

"My favorite part of working with BIA is being a firefighter," Nix said. "Although I am a professional forester by title, I love having the opportunity to fight fire during the fire season and improve my fire qualifications."

Nix said when he gets called out on a fire, it usually starts with a phone call to see if he will be available to participate in a fire assignment that can last up to 14 days.

"The worst fire I've ever witnessed was the recent Schultz fire in Flagstaff, Ariz., this past June," Nix said. "Weather was very hot and dry, causing a camp fire left unattended to cause a 15,000 acre plume-dominated wildfire minutes from Flagstaff."

The fire threatened many homes and other structures in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

On the local front, Nichols said the tribe's Emergency Management department tries to work closely with all agencies within their jurisdiction.

"We have recently shown an interest in working with BIA Fire Management Program to show our commitment in helping all agencies," Nichols said. "The local BIA Fire Management program covers the same jurisdiction as we do and it just makes sense in helping out our people."

Eric Pellatier, a range technician and fire management crew leader for BIA, said an average work week is about 60 hours, following up on smoke sightings, and helping the rural fire departments with their fire load.

Pellatier said, apart from paperwork and governmental administration involvement, his main job is to locate fires and to help identify if they are on Creek trust or restricted lands.

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Fire

Continued from B4

His department will use data through plat maps to find where the fires are located and be able to identify if they are located Creek trust land.

"We have been working with the Realty Department of Creek Nation as well as Geographic Information Systems to get updated and better information," Pellatier said.

Pellatier said part of the extensive work hours are the result of the extremely dry season.

"People see the rain, but the amount of rain we are getting when you see the accumulations is only 1/200 of an inch to maybe ¼ of an inch," Pellatier said. "Its just not enough to replace the amount for the water table lost from the dry season."

Pellatier said the 11 counties that make up the Nation are in a drought condition right now and that it's significantly evident through both Creek and Okfuskee counties.

"Within the Creek boundary these two counties are currently under a burn ban," Pellatier said. "A lot of people assume that the fire season runs in the summertime when the weather is hot, but that's the time when all the vegetation is green and there's water in the ground from the previous fall or spring."

Pellatier said fire season typically runs about Aug. 1 to April 15, but the most notable activity usually occurs October through April.

"It also takes a lot of work to maintain our fire engines, tools and equipment to prepare," Pellatier said. "We don't really do a lot of firefighting with water and usually use hand tools, so there's a lot of sharpening and things like that that we do, making sure handles are OK, making sure everything is up to par."

Pellatier said in addition to maintenance, there is also required training each year.

"There's a lot that goes on behind the scenes that people don't realize," Pellatier said.

Pellatier said in order to go on the fire line with the organization, they must complete rookie school, which is a 40-hour class using basic fire technology, techniques and terminology as well as basic weather information.

"The weather out here is probably the no. 1 or no. 2 problem when it comes to fire," Pellatier said.

Pellatier said most of his crew are firefighter type 2 qualified, which is the basic firefighter position.

"Here at the Okmulgee agency, myself and one other person named Brian Rush are the only full-time guys," Pellatier said. "He is the prevention technician and coordinates the 'Smokey the Bear' program and community outreach."

Pellatier said BIA has an administratively determined (AD), or emergency firefighter program where if there's a need in locations of fire activity or fire danger is high, the team is brought in.

"I call them my crew, and they've gone through all the training," Pellatier said. "They are usually here from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., depending on what the previous day's action was."

Pellatier said the crew do not have to be Muscogee (Creek) citizens to be involved, since their mission is for the betterment of every tribe.

"A lot of these guys have known each other for a long time and work very well together, so there's a lot of teamwork and a spirit of brotherhood," Pellatier said.

Pellatier said boundaries get somewhat tricky in McIntosh County with the towns of Wagoner and Muskogee, since there are other tribes that share land in that territory, but the main objective is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Pellatier said there are prescription burn opportunities for Creek citizens that have a parcel of land that's been setting dormant for a while or if they've had extensive ice storm damage from the previous year.

"The main tool we use in forestry or range management is prescribed fire," Pellatier said. "If citizens need help, they can contact our agency and we can look at it and take it through an assessment to see what's best."

"It all depends on what the weather does, and during the summertime, we love to set them up and send out the crew, but the fire occurrences have been down the last two years on a national basis," Pellatier said.

Pellatier said the national level has a five-tiered preparedness level, five being the worst and one being an average, everyday fire. Generally during the summer, and usually by mid-June, the rankings will average four or five, and by August and September, level five from the national standpoint.

"We've been fortunate we haven't had any big occurrences this year, where we've had to bring in a team or management team," Pellatier said. "But on those instances, they have been all over the country."

Pellatier said his department fought 133 fires this past year, in addition to two prescribed fires, making for an active year, locally.

Pellatier said the crew must often steer the fire around residential areas to burn off a field, although citizens may lose some grass or hay in their fields.

"A lot of people have the misconception that fire is very glamorous, but it's only glamorous on T.V. or the movies," Pellatier said.

Pellatier said there's a big difference between structure firefighting and wild land firefighting, with a structure fire doubling every minute.

"So, if you have a fire in one room, a minute from now it would be twice the size and a minute from that, its gonna be twice that size," Pellatier said.

Wild land fires are determined by the weather, winds and humidity. Pellatier said many factors contribute to such a fire, and it's just not safe for them to jump in to fight.

"Sometimes we'll watch, or 'sit on' a fire to safely steer it in the direction we want it to go, as opposed to running in there all 'cowboy-ed up' and trying to put it out," Pellatier said.

Pellatier said many hazards can be found at the site of a fire above and beyond the fire itself.

"There are just so many factors to take into account, so if they see us out there and it just looks like we're just sitting around by our truck, we're probably trying to come up with a game plan to be safe for everybody involved."

Pellatier said there will be a prescribed burn in mid-January.

"It should be a one-day burn and will be for one of the elders of the tribe," Pellatier said. "She has wanted to get her property cleaned up a little bit and there's some cedar issues and a few other invasive plants. She would like to restore the land back to what it was originally."

The burn will be tentatively scheduled, assuming the weather cooperates.

"The more fuels projects and prescribed burns we do, the less fuel load we will have to fight in fire season and help prevent the devastating wildfires we sometimes have here in Okla.," Pellatier said, "and either way, it's good to burn for resource management and provides a great service to our citizens."

Nichols said during his time as a firefighter he's seen several wildfires.

"It's always a good thing when BIA is able to help our rural fire departments because they have the training and knowledge of how to handle fire when it gets deep into the timber," Nichols said."

"They dive in there and get it done, helping so many rural departments over the years with training and assistance," Nichols said. "They always show up at the right time when we need it the most."

Nichols said he knows a few full-time employees at the fire station in Glenpool who also like to help BIA fight fires on the weekend and his Emergency Management department is always willing to aid their sister tribes if requested.

Nichols said Emergency Management will be looking to add additional members to the Emergency Response team in 2011, as well as forming a Community Emergency Response team that will deal with shelter operations during a disaster.

Please contact the Muscogee Nation Emergency Management department, Bureau of Indian Affairs or Risk Management's local number, (918) 732-7795, for more information.

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OBITUARIES

EUGENE HAWKINS

EUFAULA — Eugene “Bolo” Bryant Hawkins, 45, of Eufaula, passed away on Jan. 3, 2011 at his home.

Eugene was born on Feb. 18, 1965 in Tahlequah, Oklahoma to Andrew and Francis Elizabeth (Bean) Hawkins, Sr. He attended church at Little Coweta Baptist Church in Eufaula, Okla. Eugene worked as a farming and ranching hand. He had many family and friends that will miss him deeply.

Survivors include: his four brothers, Andrew Hawkins, Jr., and wife, Patricia, of Quatman, Texas; Gary Hawkins and wife, Paula, of Henryetta, OK; Ronnie Hawkins and wife, Sandy; Daniel Hawkins, Sr., both of Eufaula, OK; two sisters, Brenda Earls, of Eufaula, OK; Glenda Welty and husband, Todd, of Oklahoma City; and a host of nieces and nephews. His is preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Francis Hawkins.

Wake services were held on Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2011 at the Kelley Memorial Chapel from 7-8 p.m.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Thursday, January 6, 2011 at the Little Coweta Baptist Church with Revs. Dustin Tidwell and Ernest Best officiating.

Pallbearers were Wayne Newton, Fines Sturgeon, Paul Phillips, Tracy Haley, Terry Tucker, Kenneth Fenton, Rick Hailey, and Buddy Berry. Honorary pallbearers were Bill Nixon, James Nixon, Thomas McIntosh, Harold Newton, Anthony Chism, Mack Horton, and Tony Newton. Burial followed at the Hawkins-McIntosh Cemetery with Phil Lawrence officiating under the direction of Hunn Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory.

JON MICAL RILEY

GRAHAM — Jon-Mical Grant Riley was born Aug. 27, 1990 to Joe Crowels and Trilla Riley in Ada. He passed this life on Nov. 28, 2010 at his home in the Graham Community, at the age of 20 years.

Riley was preceded in death by his grandfather John Riley and grandmother Christine Riley.

He is survived by his parents, two children Jinessafaye Riley of Henryetta and Zechariah Lewis Tecumseh-Riley of Henryetta, two sisters Christina Riley and Melissa Liges of Weleetka, brother Derrick Riley of Weleetka, grandmother Millie Scott of Holdenville, as well as numerous other relatives and friends.

Visitation for Jon-Mical was held Thursday, Dec. 2, 2010 from 12-8 p.m., and on Friday, Dec. 3 from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., at the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home of Henryetta.

Pallbearers were Worren Blake, Victor Artussee, Jonathan D. Riley, Harrison Kelsey. Patrick Murphy Jr., and Rusty Gray.

THANK YOUS

RILEY FAMILY

GRAHAM — We would like to express out most sincere appreciation to the out-pouring of prayers, love and support in the time of our loss of our beloved son and brother, Jon-Mical “Mikey” Grant Riley. Thank you all for being there and helping our family during this very difficult time. May God Bless each and every one of you. We love you all.

Jon-Mical Grant Riley Family

Trilla, Christina, Derrick and Melissa

DUNN FAMILY

SAPULPA — The family of Delbert Thomas Dunn wants to thank all of those who helped us during the year of Delbert’s sickness, and for supporting us with your love, concern, prayers and visits during his time of death, Nov. 5, 2010.

We give a special thank you to, Teresa and Jack Runnels, Tim Lowe and Randall Church, Indian Fellowship Baptist Church, Rena Whitecloud Buck, Chink Whitecloud, Ben Lowe, Mark Randolph and the many individuals who prayed for us then and are praying with us now.

Delbert’s wife, children and church family-New Joy Indian Baptist Church miss his presence at home as well as in the church for he was a strong leader in both places. Also, Smith Funeral Home in Sapulpa and Creek Nation is greatly appreciated for their services and the assistance they provided to us during our time of grief.

Sincerely,

Carol (Alexander) Dunn and children

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number: ____________________
Phone Number: (___) ___________
Name: ______________________________________
Address: ______________________________________
Date of Birth: ________________________________
Theme of the party: ___________________________
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: _____________________________________
Clan: _______________________________________
Tribal Town: _________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number: ____________________
Phone Number: (___) ___________
Name: ______________________________________
Address: ______________________________________
Date of Birth: ________________________________
Name of Hospital: _____________________________
Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces** ______ **inches**
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: _______________________________________
Tribal Town: _________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number: ____________________
Phone Number: (___) ___________
Name: ______________________________________
Address: ______________________________________
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: _______________________________________
Tribal Town: _________________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

BIRTHDAYS

ISAAC JENNINGS

OKMULGEE — Isaac Jordan Jennings celebrated his 9th birthday with his family at Incredible Pizza in Tulsa.

He is the son of Kirby and Martha Jennings of Okmulgee and Kristi Morgan of Ardmore and has a sister Kyra Jennings.

Paternal grandparents are Bobby and Teresa Jennings of Okmulgee and maternal grandparents are Kenneth Morgan of Morris and Dorislene Morgan of Ardmore.

Paternal great-grandparents are the late Henry and Elizabeth Tarpalechee and the late Pearline Day. He maternal great-grandparents are the late Dan and Pauline Morgan.

Isaac is a lego builder and basketball player. He is of the Bird Clan and Nuyaka Tribal Town and attends Big Cussetah Methodist Church.

BIRTHS

MEKKO WHITSON

WELEETKA — Mekko Alan Riley Whitson was born Dec. 20, 2010 to Melissa Liges and Casey Whitson at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa. Whitson weighed 3 lbs., 2 oz., and was 16 inches long.

Whitson's maternal grandparents are Trilla Riley of Weleetka and Javier Liges of Okmulgee. Maternal great grandparents are late John Watson Riley and the late Christine Birdcreek Riley and the late Lydia Liges.

Maternal great great grandmother, Christine Liges of Jal, N.M. Paternal Grandparents are Jessie Jackson of Ada and the late Gary Allen Whitson. Paternal great grandparents are the late Gary Dean Whitson and the late Alice Noon Matthews and Lena Mcwethy of Ada, Okla.

Whitson is of the Deer Clan and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

EMMALEE SMITH

WELEETKA — Emmalee Ann Smith was born on Oct. 8 2010 to Chad and Shalee (Arpoika) Smith. Smith is younger sister of Lilian. She is the granddaughter of Brad and Angela Arpoika, and the great granddaughter of the late Lenda Arpoika. She is the great great granddaughter of the late William Arpoika and Elva Arpoika.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BRAD ARPOIKA

WELEETKA — Brad Arpoika bagged a trophy buck during the last rifle season. Arpoika is an avid sportsman with roots and family ties that go back to his grandfather's alottment of land south of Weleetka.

He was lucky to nab this buck, "right out his back door."

LILLIAN SMITH

WELEETKA — Two and half year old Lilian Smith enjoyed the holiday season and celebrated by making a crafty Santa Jar.

She is the older sister of Emmalee and daughter of Chad and Shalee (Arpoika) Smith. She is the granddaughter of Brad and Angela Arpoika, and the great granddaughter of the late Lenda Arpoika. She is the great great granddaughter of the late William Arpoika and Elva Arpoika.

JESSICA CORDIAL

DENTON, Texas — Jessica Cordial, a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Grant recipient, has been named to the fall semester deans list at Texas Women's University in Denton , Texas. Jessica is the great grand daughter of Clarinda Doyle York and the grand daughter of Buddy Able York .

Clarinda as well as Buddy grew up and resided in Nuyaka, Okla. Both Buddy and Clarinda valued education and were both very proud of their Creek heritage.

Jessica is a senior at TWU and has an overall GPA average of 3.3. She is majoring in dietetics with a minor in psychology. After graduation Jessica will be working in the medical field.

She was also nominated to join the National Society of Leadership and Success chapter at TWU. Membership is by nomination from a faculty member and is based on your academic success at the university level. She will be returning to Texas Women's University this spring semester and she hopes to continue her academic success.

Thanks so much . As you can tell we are very proud of our daughter and the Creek Nation has been a large part of her success.

JAYDN POWELL

TUTTLE — Jadyn Powell, a fifth grader at Tuttle Intermediate School, recently starred in the Chickasha Community Theatre production of "Miracle on 34th Street." Jadyn played the role of Susan Walker.

Her mom, Michelle, also had a small role as Mrs. Henry Harper. Jadyn, age ten is the daughter of Bryant and Michelle Powell of Tuttle, Ok. She has one sister Cheyene, age 15 Her Maternal grandparents are Reg and Gaye Thompson of Eufaula and Jim Tidwell of Moore. Her paternal grandparents are Janice and Ken Hardy of Tuttle.

Powell is of the Alligator Clan and the Weogufkee Tribal Town.

Send us your lifestyle news

To submit announcements, please mail to:

MCN Communications
PO Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK 74447

If you would like your photograph returned please request a return and note the return address.

Be sure to include your city and state!

SUMMER YOUTH
2011

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS: DECEMBER 20TH THROUGH MARCH 18TH
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

AGES 16-21
MUST BE A MEMBER OF A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBE. MUST LIVE IN CREEK NATION BOUNDARIES.

TO APPLY CALL:
918-732-7775, 918-732-7776 OR
1-800-482-1979 EXT. 7775 OR 7776

DEADLINE TO GET ALL PAPERWORK IN THE OFFICE IS APRIL 1, 2011.

Miss Muscogee

NO FAXED APPLICATIONS
WILL BE ACCEPTED

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Feb. 15, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 3

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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Tribal resolutions fail

• Tribal resolutions fail

MUSCOGEE CREEK NATION
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

MNN/*Rachel Mayberry*

Pictured above is the MCN Office of the Attorney General, which has been the center of controversy between the National Council and the Office of the Principal Chief since last year.

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Earlier this month, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis returned with objections, Muscogee (Creek) National Council tribal resolutions regarding the Office of Attorney General.

According to TR 11-011, the National Council does not recognize Marcy Moore as Attorney General. NCA 10-173 was passed Oct. 30, 2010, which established the Office of the Attorney General as an independent agency and requires National Council confirmation of any candidate nominated by the Principal Chief.

Ellis raised objections to the resolutions citing violations of the separation of powers.

SEE OBJECTIONS - A5

MCN Social Services exhausts burial funds

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services is currently out of burial assistance funds.

Once the FY2011 comprehensive annual budget is passed by the National Council and B.I.A. funds are received, Social Services will then be able to process burial assistance applications.

All pending burial assistance applications will be denied at this time. Once funds are received, applicants may call to request their applications be reopened. Social Services apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause to citizens, their families, or funeral homes.

For more information, contact MCN Social Services at (918) 549-2440.

FY2011 budget pending; defendants no call, no show

Angel Ellis
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — Recent budget disputes have slowed and halted some Muscogee (Creek) Nation programs while the courts review the issue and a recent failure to appear in court on behalf of the defendants could extend the situation into a financial crisis for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's services.

A media release was issued Tuesday, Feb. 15, that stated, "Social Services is currently out of burial assistance funds." The fiscal year budget for 2011 has not been passed in its entirety, and the Nation is currently operating on a quarterly basis.

The Plaintiffs' Motion for Extraordinary Writs and the Defendant's Motion to Dismiss were to take place Feb. 16, 2011, with the court hearing testimony from subpoenaed witnesses, National Council Speaker, Roger Barnett, Second Speaker Sam Alexander and Rep. Bill Fife.

SEE BUDGET - A2

A2 LEGAL
MCN District Court filings

A3 LEGAL
Letter from the Editor and legal notices

A4 CAPITOL NEWS
Veterans' Scoop

A7 HISTORY
And Still the Waters Run: *Dora (Knoll) May*

A8 ADVERTISEMENT
MCN Communications

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

District Court filings for Nov. 2010

The District Court filings from Nov. 1, 2010 through Nov. 31, 2010 are as follows:

Civil:

Bell Finance v. Charlotte Stallings	Small Claims
Bell Finance v. Stephanie Sutton	Small Claims
Bell Finance v. Phillip Deo	Small Claims
Bell Finance v. Barbara West	Foreign Judgment
Banner Finance v. Charlotte Stallings	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Karen Carnes	Small Claims
Patsy & Smokey Lewis v. Pam Turnham	Complaint
Bell Finance v. Jerry Pease Sr.	Small Claims
Q.C. Financial Services v. Natasha Edmondson	Small Claims
Q. C. Financial Services v. Brandee Beaver	Small Claims
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Crystal Ruth aka Crystal Taylor	Foreign Judgment
Saber Acceptance Co., v. Tierra Mays	Petition
Brandee Beaver v. Dustin Harjo	Petition
Laura Mort v. Muscogee Creek Nation	Petition
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Starla Plum	Foreign Judgment
Ladonna Howard v. Kenneth Crenshaw	Petition
Covington Credit v. Daniel Wind	Small Claims
Faust Corporation v. Erik Zurita	Foreign Judgment

Divorce:

Teresa Lovin v. Leonard Lovin	Divorce
George Doyle v. Pauline Doyle	Divorce
Jackie Jones v. Vicky Jones	Divorce
Benny Fixico Jr., v. Colleen Fixico	Divorce
Paulette Manus v. Johnnie Manus	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Melanie Artussee v. Jamaal Hogshooter	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Elizabeth Geesaman v. Bryan Geesaman	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Montana LaRue v. Robert LaRue	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Heather Wilson v. William Ziegler	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Cindy Arechiga v. George Proctor	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Suzanne Hicks v. Franchette Coody	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Elwood Pipestom-Ott v. Regina Pipestom-Ott	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Cindy Arechiga v. Erika Harjo	Ex-Parte
Lisa Tiger v. Gabriel Ramirez	Ex-Parte
Becky Lindsey v. Sam Osborne	Ex-Parte
John Morgan & minor children v. Laura Morgan	Ex-Parte
Marilyn Dunson v. Ray Herrera	Ex-Parte
Nell English v. Frank Scott	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Dustin Harjo	Ct. 1: Harassment
MCN v. Johnny Whitehorn	Ct. 1: Trespassing
MCN v. Lana Estep	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Elizabeth Barnett	Ct. 1: Theft

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Judith Proctor	Ct. 1: Embezzlement
MCN v. Marlon Roberts	Ct. 1: Receiving Stolen Property Ct. 2: Malicious Mischief
MCN v. Stephanie Holt	Ct. 1: Theft Ct. 2: Malicious Mischief

Traffic:

MCN v. William Pierce	No Driver's License
MCN v. Kenneth Phillips	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Michael Powell	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Anthony McIntosh	Expired Tag
MCN v. Anthony McIntosh	No Insurance

Budget

Continued from A1

The three were to appear and testify as witnesses on behalf of the National Council but failed to make an appearance.

In addition to the absence of the witnesses, legal counsel for the defense also failed to appear. Yonne Tiger, Roger Wiley, and Stacy Leeds were not present and did not contact the District Court beforehand to offer explanation for their absence or make an attempt to reschedule.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis took the stand to deliver testimony stating, "This Nation can't survive one or two months at a time. We need to fully fund our programs."

Plaintiffs' counsel, Rod Weimer and Timothy Posey also called on the testimony of Controller Gary Rogers, Program Officer Ruby Booker and Deputy Controller Kathie Guthrie in order to submit into evidence the FY2011 budget, which contained notes on the changes the Budget Committee attempted to make. These changes all dealt with specific line items ranging from equipment to employee salaries.

In closing, Weimer referenced *Ellis vs. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council* Supreme Court case of 2007, in which the duties of the National Council are defined as "advise and consent," in regard to the budget.

"The maneuvering of line items were an infringement on the Executive Branch. The only legitimate advice and consent the National Council can make is on the program level," Weimer explained.

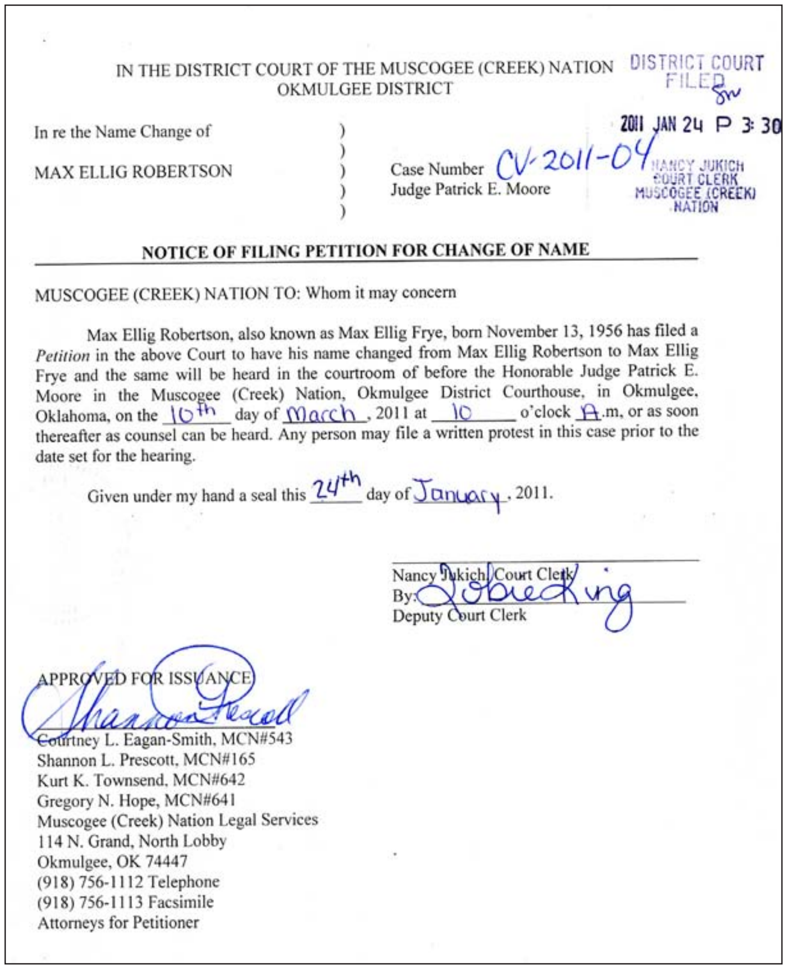
Budgets for the operations of the Executive Branch have been caught up since Sept. 14, 2010 when Ellis first proposed the legislation supporting the budget, only to have it enacted with amendments to funding levels. The case was first seen in the court in Sept. 2010, when Ellis sought Emergency Temporary Relief and an Emergency Order was granted.

Since then, the case has been subject to various fillings such as a Motion to Dismiss and request for the disqualification of the District Judge.

The most recent fillings on CV2010-157 are the Orders Setting Show Cause Hearing on the Matter of the Counsels and Subpoenaed Witnesses Failure to Appear.

Defense counsel, Tiger, Wiley and Leeds are now ordered to attend a hearing Feb. 21, showing why they should not be held in contempt of court. The subpoenaed witnesses, Barnett, Alexander and Fife, are ordered to attend a similar hearing Feb. 22.

The defendants and their counsel were unable to be reached for comment at time of press.



DISTRICT COURT
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2011 JAN 24 P 3: 30
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Name Change of)
)
MAX ELLIG ROBERTSON) Case Number CV-2011-04
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

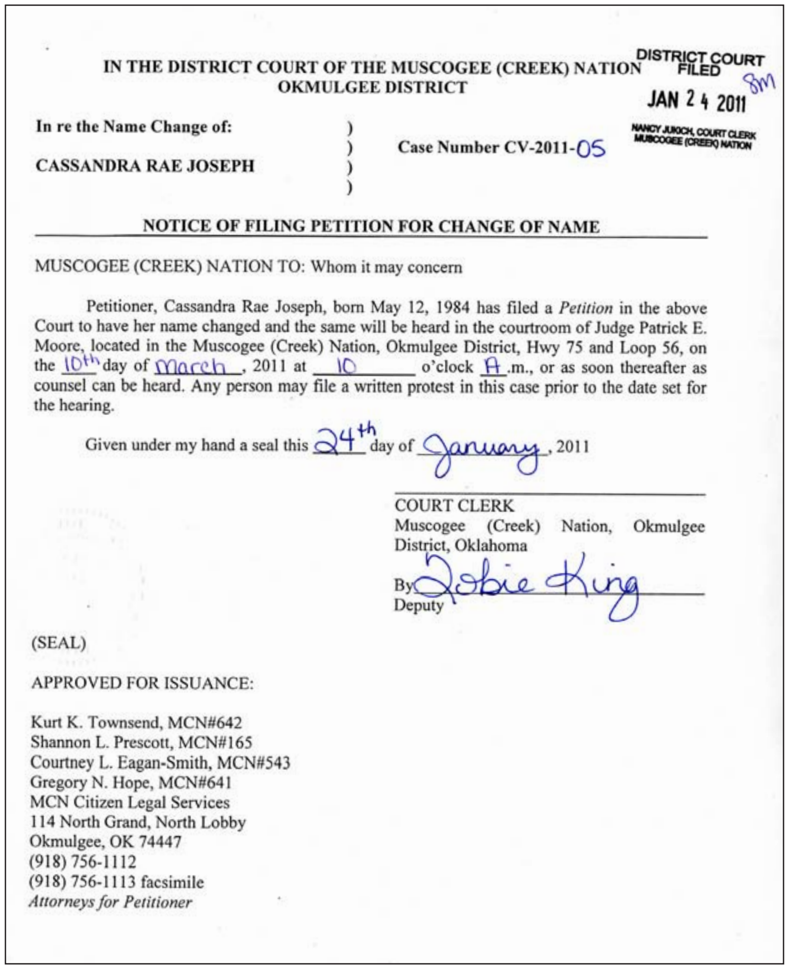
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Max Ellig Robertson, also known as Max Ellig Frye, born November 13, 1956 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Max Ellig Robertson to Max Ellig Frye and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 10th day of March, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 24th day of January, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Jobie King
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE
Shannon Prescott
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



DISTRICT COURT
FILED Sm
JAN 24 2011
NANCY JUKICH, COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Name Change of:)
) **Case Number CV-2011-**05
CASSANDRA RAE JOSEPH)
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Petitioner, Cassandra Rae Joseph, born May 12, 1984 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Hwy 75 and Loop 56, on the 10th day of March, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 24th day of January, 2011

COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma
By Jobie King
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
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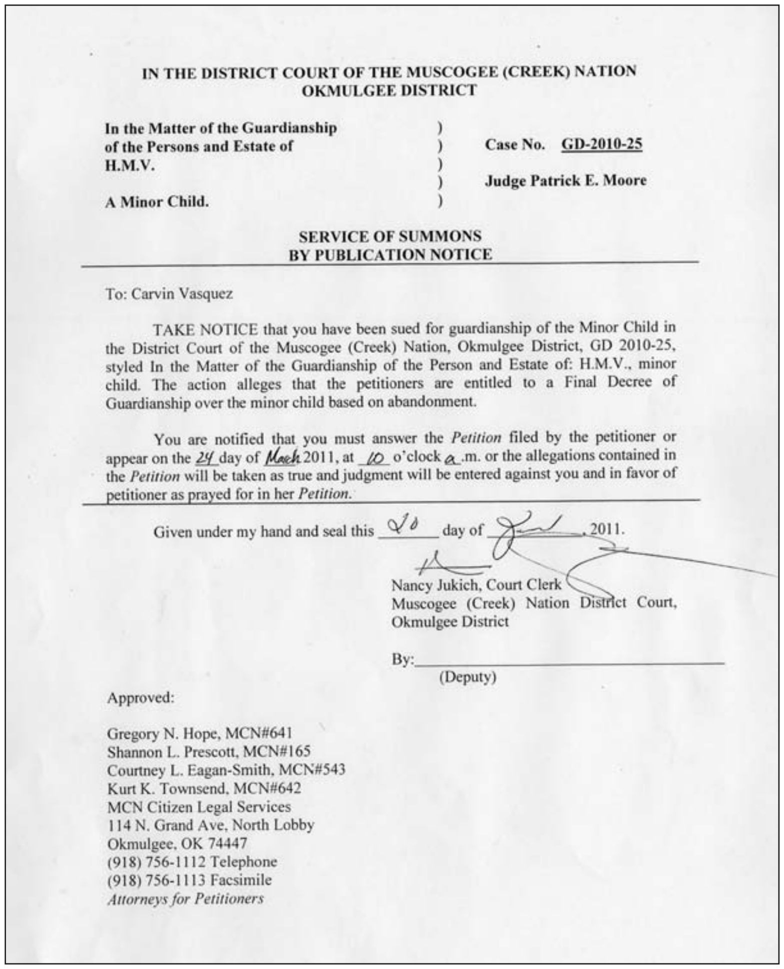
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estate of) **Case No. GD-2010-25**
H.M.V.)
) **Judge Patrick E. Moore**
A Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Carvin Vasquez

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2010-25, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: H.M.V., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 24 day of March 2011, at 10 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

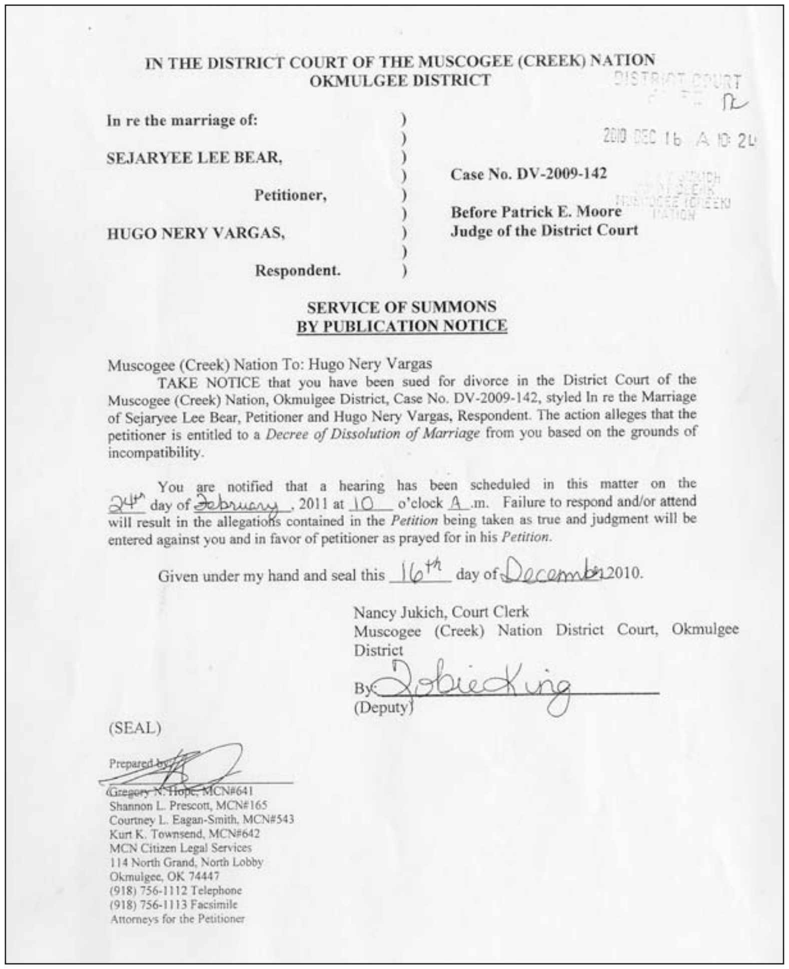
Given under my hand and seal this 20 day of [illegible], 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By:
(Deputy)

Approved:

Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioners



DISTRICT COURT
2010 DEC 16 A 10: 24
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of:)
)
SEJARYEE LEE BEAR,)
) **Case No. DV-2009-142**
Petitioner,)
) **Before Patrick E. Moore**
HUGO NERY VARGAS,) **Judge of the District Court**
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Hugo Nery Vargas

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2009-142, styled In re the Marriage of Sejaryee Lee Bear, Petitioner and Hugo Nery Vargas, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that a hearing has been scheduled in this matter on the 24th day of February, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 16th day of December 2010.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District
By Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Prepared by:
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for the Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Brrrrrr!

February took the Midwest by storm, literally. The record-breaking snowfall slowed travel and production for most of Okla., and the surrounding states as well. Muscogee (Creek) Nation offices were closed for almost a full week due to the unruly conditions, forcing us to cancel the Feb. 1 edition of the MNN. The middle and high school MCN Challenge Bowls and the Tulsa Art Festival were also rescheduled due to inclement weather, with new dates and times TBA.

The mid-month edition goes to press on Valentine's Day, which I usually despise, however, I am in love with good food. Speaking of which, the third annual Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative' 'Food and Fitness' Symposium is coming up this weekend, Feb. 18-19, 2011 here in Okmulgee. The event is free and will feature knowledgeable speakers from across the country and also, a traditional meal! If you're on a budget but looking to take your hvkte for a special evening, this may be the event for you! For more information, call MFSI at (918) 752-6113.

Whatever your plans, romantic or not, if there are people in your life that you care about, let them know. If you want to say it with chocolate or sofke, I just can't argue with that.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop

Staff
Veterans Affairs Services Office

The Veterans' Scoop will feature articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Veterans urged to sign up for direct deposit

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefits by March 1, 2013. Officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) urge Veterans to sign up for electronic payment of their benefits.

"Receiving VA benefits electronically will increase the security, convenience and reliability of these vital payments," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "VA encourages Veterans who are now receiving their benefits in paper checks to set up direct deposits before the deadline."

On March 1, 2013, VA will stop issuing paper checks. People who do not have electronic payments for their federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card. Called the Direct Express card, it is issued by Comerica Bank as the financial agent of the U.S. Treasury.

Another deadline affects people receiving VA's compensation or pensions for the first time after May 1, 2011. Those people will automatically receive the benefits electronically.

Anyone already receiving federal benefit payments electronically will be unaffected by the changes. To learn more about the federal government's switch to direct deposit – or to change VA benefits to direct deposit -- visit www.GoDirect.org. Information about the federal government's "Go Direct" campaign is also available at 1-800-333-1795.

Along with payments for VA benefit, the change will also affect recipients of payments from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management.

For more information about VA benefits and programs, go to www.va.gov or call toll free 1-800-827-1000.

COLA adjustments made to social security benefits in 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Social Security Administration has announced that no cost-of-living adjustments will be made to Social Security benefits in 2011 because the consumer price index has not risen since 2008 when the last Social Security increase occurred.

Like recipients of Social Security and other federal benefits, Veterans, their families and survivors will also not see a cost-of-living adjustment in 2011 to their compensation and pension benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Under federal law, the cost-of-living adjustments to VA's compensation and pension rates are the same percentage as for Social Security benefits.

VA provides compensation and pension benefits to about four million Veterans and beneficiaries. For more information about VA benefits, go to www.va.gov or call 1-800-827-1000.

Cobell v. Salazar $3.4 million Indian trust settlement

Media Release
Desautel Hege Communications

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Court-ordered process of notifying individual Indians of their right to participate in the historic $3.4 billion class action Settlement, Cobell v. Salazar, is underway. The Settlement resolves claims related to Individual Indian Money (or IIM) accounts and land held in trust by the federal government for the benefit of individual Indians.

Class Members all over the country are receiving detailed information about their legal rights and options via U.S. Mail. Information will also be provided through an extensive media campaign, which includes Native America print media, television and radio ads, and online advertising.

On December 21, 2010, U.S. Senior District Judge Thomas F. Hogan granted preliminary approval of the Settlement, setting in motion a process through which hundreds of thousands of individual Indians who have or had government-managed IIM accounts or trust lands may receive some of the $3.4 billion Settlement Fund.

The judge's approval came after Congress passed and the President signed legislation approving the Settlement. Current estimates project that most Class Members will receive about $1,800, with some Class Members receiving much more depending on the level of activity in their IIM accounts.

The $3.4 billion Settlement was reached between the Departments of the Interior and Treasury and the individual Indian plaintiffs in December 2009. The Settlement resolves the government's failure to provide an historical accounting for IIM accounts and also resolves claims that the government mismanaged funds and other trust assets, including royalties owed to individual Indians for oil, gas, grazing, and other leases of individual Indian lands, mostly in the West.

The Settlement provides a $1.5 billion fund to compensate an estimated 500,000 affected individual Indian trust beneficiaries who have or had IIM accounts or own trust land. The Settlement creates two groups of Class Members eligible to receive money from the fund—the Historical Accounting Class and the Trust Administration Class.

- The Historical Accounting Class comprises individual Indians who were alive on September 30, 2009, who had an open IIM account anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, and whose account had at least one cash transaction.
- The Trust Administration Class comprises individual Indians alive on September 30, 2009, who had an IIM Account at any time from 1985 through September 30, 2009, recorded in currently available electronic data in federal government systems, as well as individual Indians who, as of September 30, 2009, had a recorded or demonstrable interest in land held in trust or restricted status.
- The estates of deceased Class Members will also receive a Settlement distribution if the deceased beneficiary's account was open as of September 30, 2009, or their land interest was open in probate as of that date. Other eligibility conditions and requirements for each Class are detailed in the Settlement Agreement.

Under the Settlement Agreement, $1.9 billion will fund a Department of the Interior program to buy fractionated interests in trust or restricted land from willing sellers to benefit tribal communities and aid in land consolidation. Depending on the level of participation in the land consolidation program, up to $60 million will be set aside to provide scholarships for higher education for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

Information about the Settlement and legal rights is available to all American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The web site www.IndianTrust.com and toll-free number 1-800-961-6109 are available to provide more information about the Settlement and the legal rights of Class Members. Individuals who are unsure whether they are included in the Settlement should visit the website or call the toll-free number for more information.

Class Members who receive a formal notice in the mail about the Settlement and who are currently receiving IIM account statements do not have to do anything to receive payment. Individuals who believe they should be part of the Settlement but do not receive a notice in the mail or are not receiving IIM account statements need to fill out a Claim Form as soon as possible, available at the Indian Trust website or by calling the toll-free number.

Individuals wishing to keep their right to sue the federal government over mismanagement claims covered by the Settlement must exclude themselves from the Settlement by April 20, 2011. Class Members can also submit written comments or objections about any Settlement terms that concern them by April 20, 2011.

Absentee ballot request forms to be mailed July 5, 2011

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released dates for the upcoming 2011 elections for Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don't receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

Objections

Continued from A1

"... TR 11-010, as well as the cited NCA 10-173, violates the principle of separation of powers, since both attempt to improperly inject the opinions and influence of the National Council into the functioning of the Executive Branch, in particular the Office of the Attorney General," Ellis stated.

Ellis also pointed out that both of the statutes rely on legislation that was not supported by the Executive Branch.

"TR 11-010 and NCA 10-173 are additionally in violation of Article V, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, which provides that the Principal Chief, not the National Council, shall 'create and organize the Executive Office of the Principal Chief.' Both TR 11-010 and NCA10-173 have been passed unilaterally by the National Council, with no collaboration or consultation of any sort with the Principal Chief. As such, both purported enactments are unconstitutional infringements on the powers of the Principal Chief and the Executive Branch by the National Council," he stated.

In addition, on Feb. 11, 2011, Ellis also returned with obections, TR 11-012, a resolution that would nominate Susan Arkeketa to serve as MCN Attorney General. The resolution cited failure of the Principal Chief to nominate a candidate within 60 days of a vacancy.

Like TR 11-011, Ellis again cites the separation of powers as the basis for his objections.

"The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the judicial decisions of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court support the proposition that the powers of the National Council are limited to passing laws, appropriating money and providing legitimate advice and consent. By way of illustration and not by way of limitation, the provisions of TR 11-012 far exceed the boundaries of legitimate legislation by unconstitutionally usurping the power of the Principal Chief to nominate Executive Branch officers and extending the normal advice and consent, as envisioned by the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to Executive Branch officers closely tied to the office of Principal Chief," he stated.

TR 11-014, which would confirm the nomination of Marcy Moore to serve as Attorney General, was also introduced by the National Council in Jan., and is currently in the Business and Governmental Committee for review and consideration.

Without the agreement of the National Council and the Principal Chief there can be no tribal resolution that reflects the policy of the nation as a whole.

If You Are a Native American Who Tried to Get a Farm Loan or Loan Servicing from the USDA,

You Could Receive Benefits from a $760 Million Class Action Settlement.

A class action Settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") has been reached. The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans who applied for or tried to apply for farm loans or loan servicing. The USDA denies it did anything wrong.

Am I included?

The Class includes all Native American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch between January 1, 1981 and November 24, 1999;
- Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA during that period; **and**
- Complained about discrimination to the USDA either on their own or through a representative during the time period.

You are not eligible for this Settlement if you filed a claim, or intend to file a claim, in another USDA discrimination case like Pigford I or Pigford II (Black farmers), Garcia (Hispanic farmers) or Love (Women farmers).

Because of a law passed by Congress, you are also not eligible for this Settlement if you **either**:

- Experienced discrimination only between January 1 and November 23, 1997; **or**
- Complained of discrimination only between July 1 and November 23, 1997.

What does the Settlement provide?

The $760 million Settlement will pay cash to Class Members for valid claims as well as attorneys' fees (between 4% and 8%, subject to Court approval) and awards. The Settlement includes up to $80 million in USDA loan forgiveness for Class Members who qualify. The USDA will pay an additional $20 million to implement the Settlement and will make some changes to their farm loan programs. Any money left after all payments and expenses have been made will be donated to one or more organizations that help Native American farmers and ranchers.

What can I get from the Settlement?

The amount of money you will receive will depend on whether you file a claim under Track A or Track B. It will also depend on the total number of claims that are filed and approved.

Track A – You can get a payment up to $50,000 for your discrimination claim plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

Track B – You can get the amount of your actual damages up to $250,000. Track B requires more proof than Track A.

USDA Loan Forgiveness – Under both Track A and Track B you can get forgiveness on part or all of your eligible USDA farm loans plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

How do I get benefits?

You will need to file a claim by **December 24, 2011** to get benefits. After the Court approves the Settlement, meetings will be held across the country to help Class Members file claims. You can register for a Claims Package at the website or by calling the toll-free number.

What are my other rights?

- If you want to keep your right to sue the USDA about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **February 28, 2011**. Unless you exclude yourself, you will be bound by the terms of this Settlement.
- If you stay in the Settlement, you can object to or comment on it by **February 28, 2011**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **April 28, 2011** to consider whether to approve the Settlement and the attorneys' fees. The Court has appointed attorneys to represent the Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.

For More Information: 1-888-233-5506 www.IndianFarmClass.com

Citizen ‘Speak Out’ set for March 5

Media Release
Sandi Golden

OKMULGEE — On Jan. 15, 2011 a group of Creek citizens came together at the Creek Nation complex for a “speak out rally” with the purpose of allowing citizens to come together and speak about issues concerning the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Participants were allowed to put their concerns/issues in writing and given time to make an oral presentation. The group discussed how to move forward with the concerns/issues and come up with ways to develop a process that will affect policy changes from the grass roots level. There were references made to the democratic process and what has happened in the past when people did not believe the process was working.

Overall, citizens expressed the support of this endeavor, stating that it was positive and successful. They also expressed their disappointment that there was no participation from the Muscogee Creek Nation Administration or the Council.

The group consensus was to continue this effort. The next meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2011 at the Okemah Indian Community Center. This meeting is open to all Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

Division of Health now recruiting focus group participants

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for people to volunteer their time to participate in a focus group which will concentrate on patient experiences within Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers.

The goal is to gain information from the patient’s experiences to create better processes and better patient outcomes.

If you are a patient, legal guardian of a patient, family member of a patient or concerned community member and you would like to participate in a focus group regarding Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers please contact Anne Edwards, Patient Advocacy Coordinator at (918) 756-3334 ext. 287, call 1-877-579-4911 or e-mail anne.edwards@creekhealth.org

24
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OKMULGEE
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EVERY 25 POINTS EARNED BETWEEN FEB. 1ST - 24TH GETS YOU ONE ENTRY INTO NEARLY **$16,000** WORTH OF PRIZES

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LIHEAP and Tribal Energy available through March 31

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department offers two programs in the winter for heating assistance.

New participants may apply beginning Jan. 10, 2011. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2011, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries.

The Tribal Energy program is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits.

To apply for either of these programs, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 - 4 p.m. Offices are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn.: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please do not mail CDIB/citizenship cards or original documents.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to (918) 549-2494 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. Call Social Services at (918) 549-2445 to find out when we’ll be in your area. Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal enrollment cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Driver’s license for those without a tribal enrollment card

3) Gas bill OR Propane vendor OR Wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric. You may be asked to verify this.)

4) Copies of all income sources – this is for LIHEAP and Tribal Energy

5) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

6) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

7) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities and/or deposits.

8) Additional documentation may be required based on your individual situation.

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Muscogee (creek) Nation Social Services at (918) 549-2445 for additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 2445.

And Still the Waters Run: *Dora (Knoll) May*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — Dora Knoll was born to Frank and Sally Scott Knoll May 22, 1892 in Bristow, in Indian Territory. Frank was a non-citizen, but Sally was of Tuskegee Tribal Town, born in 1859 and listed as roll number #2731. She died just as the Dawes Commission ended its work in 1910.

Dora's maternal grandparents were Peter & Mary Scott of Tuskegee, born circa 1835. Both passed on prior to enrollment.

Dora grew up to marry non-citizen, Solon Boland Warren May, an Alabama native, in October 1907. They would raise nine children, six girls and three boys. Their names were: Geraldine Procello Brulee, Ruth Gardiner, Helen Martel, Charles May, Alfred May, Jessie May, Lucille Hopkins, Catherine Fields and Marian Sim

The difficult decades of the early 1900s would cause the family to relocate across western America, seeking to provide the necessities of life for a very large brood. The first three children were born in Tulsa. Solon was a steward for the railroad then so the family moved frequently between 1912-1917.

They lived in Denver for a few years and Solon became a mailman and attended business college. The family relocated to Los Angeles in 1919. Their last three children were born there.

It is interesting to note that Dora's maternal grandparents and great grandparents were from Tuskegee, Alabama (relocated to Indian Territory by 1839), while Solon's family was from Garland, Ala., just 90 miles away. Solon was born Aug. 29, 1886. His father, Solon Warren Boland May, was born in Garland, Ala., in 1856. Solon and Dora were married Oct. 1, 1907. She was 15, he was 21.

Dora received 160 acres of allotment land in Bristow. She sold one half in 1907 and the remaining half in 1908 (though under age to do so). Efforts were made to reclaim the land, but they were not successful. Dora received approximately $2,000 for her 160 acres.

Dora spoke Creek to her children when they were young. She sang Creek hymns while they were growing up. Dora's mother and brothers did not speak English according to the 1900 census. She was eight years old at the time. Richard Procello, Dora's grandson, says his grandmother was a great storyteller. She would tell tales while the family ate. Stories were oft repeated but thrilling to hear each time. Here are several special stories:

MERMAIDS: Dora believed they were real. She described them in great detail, how they frolicked in the water and waived to her on the shore. Young Richard became a believer.

WILD BEARS: This story concerned an old bear that raided great-grandfather's corn patch. He would hear noises outside the house, grab his gun, and run outside. The bear would gather ears of corn from off the stalks, run toward the fence and climb over it, scampering into the safety of the woods.

JONAH AND THE WHALE: This story was used to introduce the kids to the Bible.

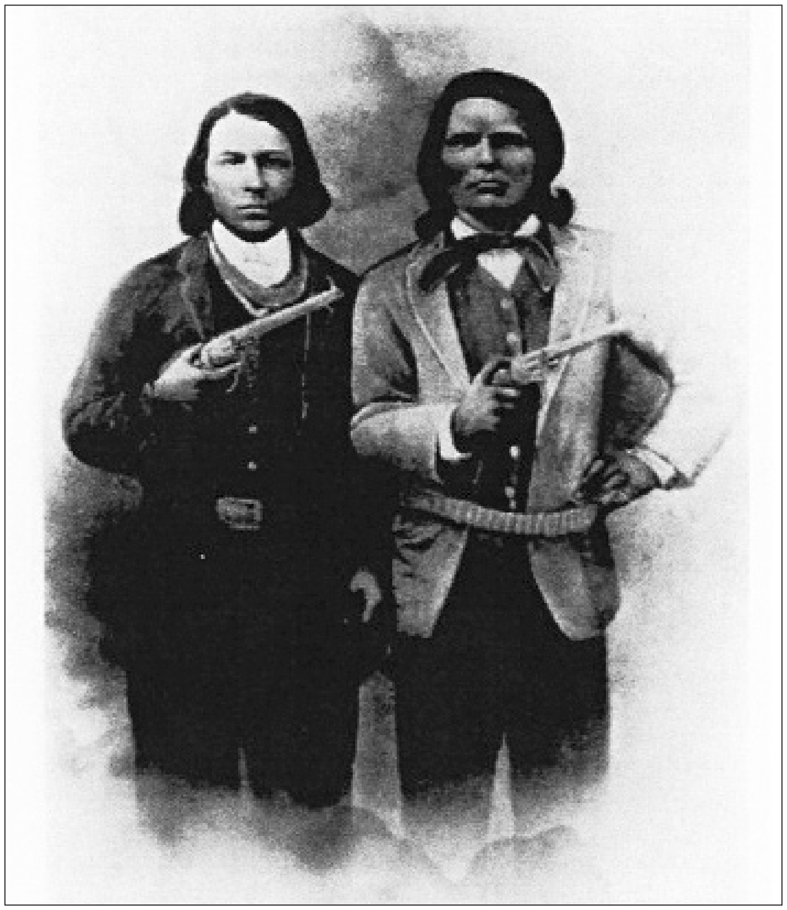
"HAM" MAN: This story scared young people. Dora said when she was a young, a man came to the house selling hams. His great grandmother bought one. When she tried to fry it in a skillet, the meat started to jump up and down. It was soon discovered the "hams" were really thighs. It taught the lesson you should not buy things from strangers.

Dora May was actively involved with her family, church, community throughout her life. When her husband was on the road, she was totally in-charge. She was committed to her church, the People's Independent Church of Christ, a deaconess in the same. She was an active member of the American War Mothers (two sons served).

The story would not be complete without mentioning Dora was an exceptional cook. She served up squash, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, lima beans, navy beans with ham, liver and onions, meatloaf, spaghetti, potatoes with onions, fresh green beans with salt pork, macaroni and cheese, cornbread and many desserts. Fish was served Fridays, chicken on Sundays. You were never hungry at Dora's house.

Dora (Knoll) May passed away on Dec. 17, 1968. She was 76. She was Creek, black and white. She was a true Muscogean, "an artery to our past."

Mr. Richard Procello of Los Angeles is Dora's grandson. He is currently on the board of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association and a recognized leader in local Native venues. It was on his watch that his grandmother's correspondence was assembled and categorized. He contributed much of this column. Thank you Richard.



Photos courtesy/*George Windes*

Top: Dora's step-father Cornel and his brother Caesar Jack. Bottom Left: Dora (Knoll) May was an avid records keeper and home cook.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

MCN COMMUNICATIONS

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Muscogee (Creek) Nation

EDITORIAL

and Advertising

Muscogee (Creek) Creek Nation Communications meets the needs of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of timely, historical and culturally relevant information via the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's official monthly news publication, the *Muscogee Nation News.*

The *MNN* is mailed the first day of each month followed by the *Extra Edition* on the 15th of each month. Publications feature staff-written articles, graphics and photography, which captures programs, services, special, community, church, ceremonial ground events along with the latest in tribal and community news.

- Free to enrolled Mvskoke citizens
- National circulation of over 8,000
- Published twice a month
- Full-color
- Advertising available
  - -Monthly
  - -Quarterly
  - -Semiannually
  - -Annually

MUSCOGEE NATION
2010 State of the Nation

To be added to the MNN mailing list, please submit name, current address and roll number to:

MCN Communications
P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447

Phone: (918) 732-7720
Toll free: 1 (800) 482-1979
Fax: (918) 758-0824

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

AUDIO/VIDEO

NATIVE news TODAY

Native News Today airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. on CW 12/19

30-Second commercial................................$1,000.00
Includes film, edit and air (allows customer to make any changes they desire) A 30-second commercial and have a commercial spot in our show each time program is aired per month.

3 Months...$2,500.00

6 Months...$5,000.00

9 Months...$7,500.00

12 Months (with commercial pre-made)..$10,000.00
Includes a thirty second spot in our monthly show, each time our show is aired. (48-52)

We also offer *prepaid* and *segment sponsorship* per show – call Jerrad Moore at (918)732-7742 or Jason Salsman at (918)732-7644

CREEK BEAT

30-Second commercial
Includes production, edit and air per weekly show.......... $11.10

60-Second commercial
Includes production, edit and air per weekly show $15.90

Simulcast every Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m., on www.mvskokefood.org and on the tribal web site at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov with your hosts Gerald Wofford, Rebecca Landsberry and Angel Ellis. Previous programs can also be heard there as well.

We also offer 'Segment Sponsorship' per show.

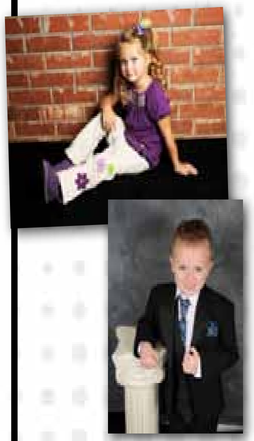
(918) 732-7642

Ruth Bible, ***Advertising Representative***

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

PHOTOGRAPHY

Spring Photo Packages



Package 1 ***(1 pose)***
$15.00*

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8	Wallets

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For more information, contact the MCN Photography Studio at

(918) 732-7639

or email mbible@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

*Deposit required. $15 Sitting Fee due at time of session.

SECTION B

FEATURES

Feb. 15, 2011 edition

LA Skins Fest honors Hicks

• Event features screening of ‘Return of the Country’

Media Release
The LA Skins Festival

LOS ANGELES — On Nov. 21, 2010, the 4th annual Los Angeles Skins Fest honored Bob Hicks at the Autry National Center located in Los Angeles, Calif.

The LA SKINS FEST is a Native American film festival sponsored by the non-profit organization, the Barcid Foundation. In addition, the festival is sponsored by television networks (NBC/Universal, CBS, FOX), movie studios (Paramount, Sony, MGM), industry unions (Producers Guild of America, Screen Actors Guild, Writers Guild of America, West) and prominent tribes of Southern California (San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians and the Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians).

Every year, the festival honors those making a difference in the entertainment industry for the Native American community. This year we honored AFI graduate, filmmaker, and community activist Bob Hicks.

More than two decades ago, he wrote, produced and directed the ground-breaking short film Return of the Country. His film turns the world upside down, depicting the Indians as rulers of America. Return of the Country inspired several new young Native American filmmakers to pursue their own dreams in entertainment. In 1992, Mr. Hicks co-founded First Americans in the Arts, an entertainment award show that honors Native Americans in film, television, music and theater. Years before that, he cofounded an acting registry for Native Americans.

Photo Courtesy/Bob Hicks

Pictured above is Muscogee (Creek) filmmaker Bob Hicks who was recently recognized at the fourth annual LA Skins Fest in Los Angeles last fall.

Mr. Hicks was an honored guest at the three-day festival and enjoyed a celebratory screening and dinner in his honor. Mr. Hicks spoke to the Los Angeles crowd about his film, his career and how he sees our community’s future.

Many were in attendance, including actress Delanna Studi, Los Angeles County Commissioner Ron Andrade, and hip hop artist Red Cloud.

This article was written with input from Ian Skorodin. For more information on the LA Skins Fest, visit the Web site at http://laskinsfest.com/

MWLI leadership award nominations due Feb. 25

Media Release
Mvskoke Women’s Leadership Initiative

OKMULGEE — Mvskoke Women’s Leadership Initiative (MWLI) was established in March 2009 to bring Mvskoke women of all ages together to fellowship and celebrate the richness of Mvskoke culture. The Leadership Awards are held each year to recognize and honor the strength of Mvskoke women.

Categories for the 2011 awards include: Woman of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Mother of the Year, College Student of the Year (any age), Humanitarian of the Year, High School Student of the Year (9th – 12th grade), Professional of the Year, Middle School Student of the Year (6th – 8th grade), Artist of the Year, Elementary Student of the Year (1st – 5th grade).

Anyone may submit a nomination. Nominee must be an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (Attach a copy of nominee’s citizenship card).

An individual may be nominated for more than one category but a separate nomination form must be completed for each category nominated.

Nominators should complete and return nomination form, with the written reason nominee should be selected, and copy of nominee’s citizenship card by Friday, Feb. 25, 2011.

Essays 750 words or less must also be completed detailing reasons nominees should be selected based on the following:

Cultural Preservation - Describe the contributions the nominee has made to preserve Mvskoke culture and any significant impact made on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Personal/Leadership - Leadership is very important and culturally relevant as women were always revered in our culture in families. Please describe nominee’s personal, professional, or academic leadership achievements.

Community Service - List the nominee’s exceptional community involvement.

Return nomination forms to: 2966 W. 66th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132, fax: (918) 445-4947, or e-mail: cherrahridge@gmail.com

Selected awardees will be notified by March 5, 2011. The awards dinner will follow March 25, (exact location and time to be announced).

For more information, call (918) 520-9161. Mvto!

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country: *Hotvlē-Hvse,* “Wind Month”

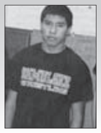
B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wild Onion Dinners

Honor what is
SACRED
Quit Commercial Tobacco

B4 SPOTLIGHT

Bates hopes to be on top ‘Down Under’



B6 PEOPLE

Obituary: Edmond Dunn

B7 PEOPLE

Birthday: Brenna Gresham

Mvskoke Country: *Hotvlē-Hvse,* "Wind Month"

by James Treat

The last month of the winter season brings blustery weather to Mvskoke lands, an annual turn as predictable in Indian Territory as it was in the old country. Today this is still the windiest part of the year in northern Alabama and Georgia, and anyone now living in eastern Oklahoma knows it's the time of year when the wind starts to pick up.

So it makes sense that the eighth month of the Mvskoke year is Hotvlē-Hvse, "Wind Month." The name was formed by combining the words hotvlē, "wind," and hvse, "month."

Hotvlē is cognate to the verb hotvletv, "to blow (of the wind)" or "to be breezy, windy." It is also the more general word for "air" and appears in compound terms involving the movement of air, which suggests that Mvskoke people have always appreciated the dynamic nature of atmospheric conditions. For example, hotvlē-rakko—literally, "big wind"—can refer to a hurricane, tornado, or other storm characterized by violent gales.

Curiously, Hotvlē-Hvse is one of only three months in cokv-walv Mvskoke whose name includes the word for "month." Most Mvskoke speakers today take hvse to mean "sun," but it probably had a broader meaning in the past. The Miccosukee language—one of our closest linguistic relatives—still uses haashe to refer to either the sun or the moon, adding a modifier to specify "day" or "night" luminary. The lunar cycle is the natural basis for months in the Mvskoke calendar, so the name for "Wind Month" preserves this older usage of hvse.

Even more distinctively, Hotvlē-Hvse is the only Mvskoke month whose name corresponds to that of a Mvskoke clan. Hotvlkvlke designates the "Wind clan," which figures prominently in a portion of the Mvskoke origin account. This story is nicely presented in English by "Este Mvskoke (The Muscogee People)," a documentary produced in 1983 by the Communications Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

It is said that, "in the beginning, the Mvskoke people were born out of the earth itself. They crawled up out of the ground, through a hole, like ants." They found themselves near high mountains, "the backbone of the earth," but then a thick fog obscured their vision. "They wandered around blindly, calling out to one another in fear." Soon they were "separated into small groups, and the people in these groups stayed close to one another in fear of being entirely alone."

Finally, Hesaketvmesē took mercy on them. "From the eastern edge of the world, where the sun rises, he began to blow away the fog. He blew and blew until the fog was completely gone. The people were joyful and sang a hymn of thanksgiving to the Master of Breath."

Then the people in each group "turned to one another" and vowed the loyalty of kinship. "They said that from then on these groups would be like large families. The members of each group would be as close to each other as brother and sister," parent and child.

"The group that was farthest east and first to see the sun praised the wind that had blown the fog away. They called themselves the Wind family, or Wind clan." As the fog cleared, other groups named themselves after the first animal they saw: bear, deer, alligator, raccoon, bird, and more.

Thus the various clans have come into being. Together they form the bedrock of Mvskoke civilization, organizing social relations in much the same way that cokv-walv Mvskoke illuminates the passage of time. And like the names of the Mvskoke months, the clan names symbolize the environmental consciousness of our indigenous forebears.

It would be a tragic mistake to regard these totems as little more than team mascots. Fans of the Texas Longhorns, for example, don't refrain from eating beef; in fact, they consume more cattle than most humans on the planet. And they don't disavow marrying other Longhorns fanatics (though it might improve the gene pool if they did). Hotvlkvlke and the rest of the Mvskoke clans remind us of our fundamental kinship with the natural world, regulating how we interact with other-than-human persons—and with one another.

Wind Month blows fresh air through Mvskoke country, bringing to mind the origin of clans and heralding a seasonal turn from dormancy to new growth.

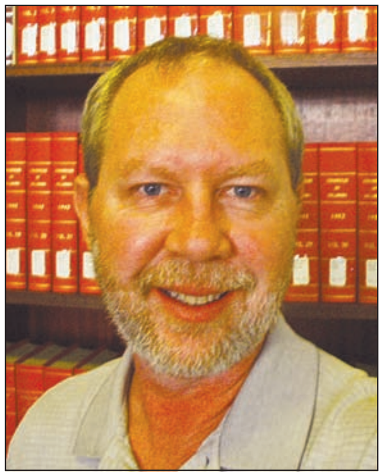
You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments, as well as your suggestions. You can reach me by e-mail at treaty@illinois.edu

Anderson elected President of Oklahoma Museums Association

Media Release
Oklahoma Museums Association

OKLAHOMA CITY — David Anderson, executive director of the Creek Council House Museum, has been elected to a two-year term as president of the Oklahoma Museums Association (OMA).



ANDERSON

The mission of OMA is to support Oklahoma museums in their efforts to educate, inform and entertain.

OMA is a non-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization founded in 1972. Programming offered by the Oklahoma Museums Association is important as the primary source of information and professional development for Oklahoma's 500 museums, historical societies, historic sites, zoos and botanical gardens, historic houses, living history museums, tribal cultural centers and other museum-related institutions.

OMA offers programs and services that provide professional services to museums; build networks among members and potential partnering organizations; promote professional growth; and encourage public awareness of the value of museums. OMA serves as an advocate throughout the state on behalf of museums and maintains an active calendar of events. Visit OMA's web site at www.okmuseums.org for more information about the organization and their programs and services.

David is particularly proud of being the driving force and one of the founding members of the Oklahoma Native American Museum Professionals Association (OKNAMPA). OKNAMPA is one of OMA's standing professional committees.

OKNAMPA is for individuals within the museum community concerned with Native American issues. OKNAMPA provides information and educational opportunities for museum professionals, decision-makers and the general public based on Native American approaches, viewpoints, values, histories, cultures, religions and life-ways. OKNAMPA objectives are to: provide resource sharing and communications networking opportunities, create informational and educational opportunities, offer resources for those planning Native American events and educational opportunities, advocate Native American community involvement in planning and decision-making processes within the museum community, promote communications between indigenous museums and other institutions, promote awareness of past and contemporary expression of Native Peoples, address legislation pertinent to Native American museum/cultural institutions within the state, and encourage visitation, support and promotion between tribal museum/cultural institutions.

David has been in the museum field since 1997 and has been the executive director of the Creek Council House Museum since 2000. In addition to serving on the OMA board, David is very involved in the community serving as treasurer for the Okmulgee Main Street board, as a board member of the Okmulgee Tourism Council, and as a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Scholarship Pageant Committee. He said, "I am excited to be able to represent Oklahoma's museums, the Creek Council House Museum and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I will continue to work hard to promote them at every opportunity!"

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

2011 MCN Festival dates

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

For more information, contact T&R at (918) 732-7992.

2011 MCN Festival sponsorships now available

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee invites any and all parties interested in joining the celebration to become a sponsor of the MCN Festival.

Sponsorships are available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization. For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

Little Cussetah Wild Onion Dinner

SCHULTER — The Little Cussetah United Methodist Church will host a Wild Onion Dinner on Saturday, April 2, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Meals are $8 a plate.

For more information, contact Karen King at (918) 752-8230 or Nelson Harjo (918) 650-5206.

Concharty Wild Onion Dinner

OKMULGEE —The Concharty United Methodist Church will host a Wild Onion Dinner Saturday, March 26, 2011 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Adults and take-out orders will be $8 and children 12 and under will be $5.

The church is located at 19040 Garfield Road, in Okmulgee (4 Miles north of Interstate Highway 16 on Bixby Road and one mile east on Garfield Road).

For more information, call (918) 366-8450 or send e-mail to: info@kvncate.com

OIC Bingo and Food Sale

OKMULGEE — There will be a bingo fund raiser event held Mar. 5, 2011, at the Okmulgee Indian Community center to benefit three Okmulgee high school Muscogee (Creek) students raising money for field trips.

The food sale will begin at noon and bingo will begin at 2 p.m. Proceeds will be matched by OIC general funds and split between the three students.

Free Sustainable Livestock Production Course

WILSON — Dr. Ann Wells, DVM, in conjunction with Okmulgee Farmers & Ranchers Organization, will be hosting a free 10-week, weekly course on "Sustainable Livestock Production" at Wilson Indian Community Center starting Friday, Feb. 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lunch is potluck, so bring your favorite dish. For more information, please contact Robyn Withrow at (918) 759-1891.

Big Cussetah Wild Onion Dinner

MORRIS — Big Cussetah United Methodist Church is hosting an all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner Saturday, March 19 from 11a.m. to 3 p.m.

Prices are $8 for adults, $5 for children 10 years and under and $8 for all carry outs.

The church is located 3 1/2 miles south on Prairie Bell Road from New Morris Hwy.

For more information contact Miley Hargis at (918) 342-3637.

Broken Arrow Wild Onion Dinner

BROKEN ARROW — Broken Arrow United Methodist Church is hosting a Wild Onion Dinner Saturday, March 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The church is located at 20854 E. 141st St., in Broken Arrow. Dinners are $8 and include onions, beans, corn, meat, frybread, beverages and assorted desserts.

For more information contact Irene McHenry.

Summer Youth Program now accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Youth Employment Program is now accepting applications for youth ages 16-21. All applicants must be a member of a federally recognized tribe and live within the Creek Nation boundaries.

The deadline to submit all paperwork is April 1, 2011. No faxed applications will be accepted.

To apply or for more information, call: (918) 732-7775, (918) 732-7776 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7775 or 7776.

Haikey Chapel Wild Onion Dinner

TULSA — Haikey Chapel UMC will be having their Wild Onion Dinner March 19, 2011.

They will be serving dinner from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Adults are $7.50 and children's plates are $3.50.

The church is located at 8503 E 101st St., in Tulsa.

For more information, contact Pastor Royce Wittman at (918) 284-7003.

Native Craft Show

EUFAULA — A Native Arts & Crafts Show will be held at the Eufaula VFW Post 8798 on Saturday, March 5, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The VFW Post is located two miles south of Eufaula on Hwy 9E. Signs will be posted.

An Indian taco food sale (dine-in only) will also be available. Proceeds of the Arts & Crafts Show will benefit the Eufaula Library to help support library programs that benefit Eufaula Indian Community, including story times at MCN Head Start and other children's programs.

For more information call (918) 689-2291, (918) 689-3654, or (918) 850-3806.

Peach Ground Bingo and Food Sale

HENRYETTA — Peach Ceremonial Ground will host a benefit bingo and Indian taco sale, Saturday, March 5 beginning at 1 p.m., at the Arbeka Community Building. The food sale will follow at 2 p.m.

For more information, contact Betsy Taryole.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

Honor what is
SACRED
Cynthia Tainpeah
Muscogee Creek Nation
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Bates hopes to be on top ‘Down Under’

Rachel Mayberry
MCN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — As fans are winding down from the recent Australian Open international tennis tournament, local Okmulgee High School junior John Bates will be getting a taste of Australia at its best this summer. The cross-country athlete finished a first-place all-around season for the Bulldogs this past fall and has been invited to an exclusive international sports tournament in Brisbane, AU, complete with a Hawaiian retreat.

“This is actually my first year to run cross-country and I decided to get into it to get ready for wrestling season,” Bates said. “I like doing it, it helps me get in shape.”

Bates will be attending the 2011 Down Under Sports tournament in Brisbane through an organization called International Sports Specialists, Inc.

“My cross-country coach told me about it, so I signed up,” Bates said. “We are going to Australia and there will be a couple of days I’ll get to compete.”

Bates said he considers the tournament to be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“Cross country is a 3 ½ mile run where the contestants run at the same time in one event,” Bates said.

Kim Burgraaf, John’s mother, said she is very proud of her son.

“I mean everything John does, he gives it 110 percent, so whenever his coach nominated him, I was just really happy for him,” Burgraaf said. “When he enrolled in this athletics class, his coach saw his potential and how hard he worked.”

Burgraaf said her son gives his all and is usually the best at whatever task is set in front of him.

“He goes out and competes not so much to beat others, but instead just to compete with himself,” Burgraaf said.

According to http://www.downundersports.com, the athlete’s trip package includes Australian and Hawaiian accommodations, tournament fees, ground transportation, team photo, Down Under Sports T-shirt, medals and awards, uniform, international airline tickets, two meals per day and fund raising materials.

Other features included are exclusive tours to the city of Sydney, the Australia Wildlife Sanctuary, and the Q1 Observation Deck, accompanied by designated tour escorts and Down Under sports staff, as well as a Polynesian Luau in Hawaii.

The travel dates for the trip are June 28-July 9, 2011, for both the tournament and Hawaiian retreat.

The Down Under International Cross-Country meet is a 5K challenge as part of the Gold Coast airport marathon, which is officially accredited by Athletics Australia and the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAFF). Challenge times will be determined using an electronic chip timing system. Event coverage will be accessible to people anywhere in the world via a live webcast. Each year, 4,000 participants from all over the world compete in this race.

The Down Under All-American Cross-Country 5K Challenge is in its 14th year at Pizzey Park.

Bates will be competing with the “Western Conference” team, which is comprised of 35 competing athletes representing six different states.

Dwight Pankey, Okmulgee High School Track & Field and cross-country coach, has been at Okmulgee public schools for 33 years and is an active endorser of International Sports Specialists, Inc., for 10 years.

“I asked him if he would like to come out and run, and I could tell he was a pretty good runner just by watching, so I figured he could come out and give us a helping hand,” Pankey said. “With his work habit, I know that John will probably be a 10-flat to 10’15 or even under 10-min., two-mile, for this Australian cross-country race,” Pankey said.

This past fall, during his first season with the team, Bates placed in every single one of the meets.

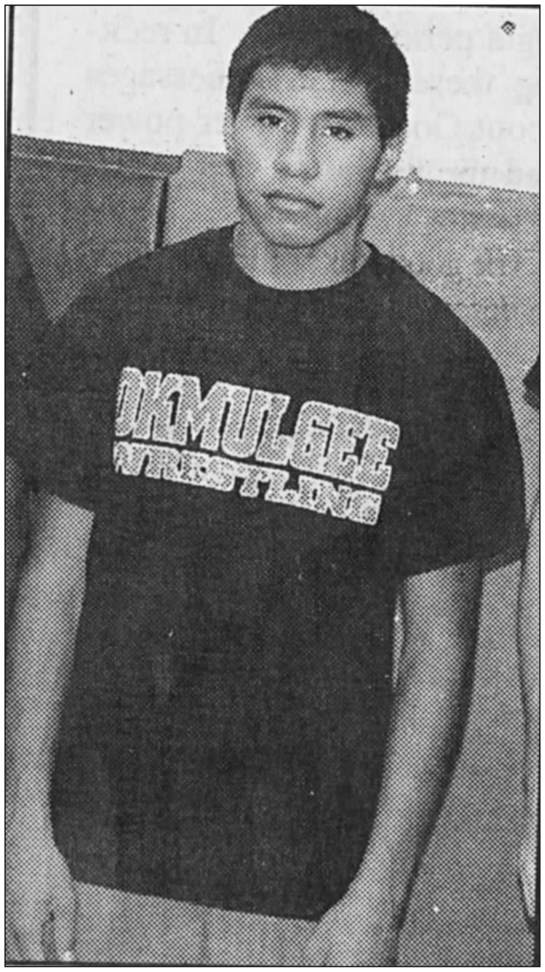

Photo Courtesy/*Okmulgee Daily Times*

Pictured above is Muscogee (Creek) athlete John Bates who will travel to Brisbane in Summer 2011.

“I knew he had a pretty good shot of mastering the state meet, and he did,” Pankey said. “You don’t find too many juniors that come and post the times that he’s run this year, so I’m looking for bigger and better things from him.” ”Going into his senior year, he will already be set for his fall cross-country season, with all the endurance he’s built up in track this spring, as well as the preparation and upcoming tournament this summer.

You have kids that have natural athletic ability and I think John is in that mode,” Pankey said. “He comes from an athletic family, and that’s a plus too.”

According to Pankey, Bates will run all year now, building endurance throughout the winter and continuing with his wrestling matches. After track season this spring, he will be entered into a few on-foot, road-race competitions in early summer.

“Right now I’m only thinking about the two-mile, cause that’s closer to what I’ve actually been doing in cross-country,” Bates said.

“My runners are also going to run the 1600-meter, which is the mile, and also, the 3200-meter relay, which he has to run half a mile, so his plate is gonna be pretty full at this point,” Pankey said.

Bates will be the fourth athlete that has been picked from Okmulgee High School to compete in either track or cross-country for the tournament in Australia.

“I have to say, there are about 800-900 cross-country and track contestants, that will compete worldwide in Australia that week,” Pankey said. “There will be eight different sports total that athletes can represent and compete in.”

“The tournament will have two meets, an American meet and an international meet,” Pankey said. “All the states will be represented as well as the Australians and other foreign countries.”

When the contestants are not competing, there will be other activities that the athletes can experience, like touring the Pearl Harbor Memorial and the Great Barrier Reef, deep-sea fishing, scuba diving, bungee jumping and “Dream World” an amusement park where they may see alligators, tigers and other exotic animals.

“It’s very educational, you know,” Pankey said. “In Sydney, the people are very friendly, the food is delicious, and we’ve never had troublesome incidents at the tournament, since I’ve been involved.”

“If you ever get the opportunity, it’s once-in-a-lifetime,” Pankey said.

Bates is doing everything he can to secure funding for the trip, but could still use some help from the community.

“We are trying to, of course, to set up some fund-raisers,” Burgraaf said. “We have a car wash at the McDonald’s I work at in March, and we are trying to get his friends and teammates out to help.”

Burgraaf said some other possible fund-raisers for the future will be bake sales, taco sales and a set of ‘thank you’ tickets, allowing those who donate to Bates’ trip a chance to win two tickets to go with him – tournament, tours, Hawaiian retreat and all.

“We’re doing everything we can to get the word out for those who would sponsor him,” Burgraaf said.

Pankey said he’s had a lot of tremendous athletes, just like John , in the past years at Okmulgee High School and he’s looking forward to more in the coming years.

Donations may be made to John Bates on-line at www.downundersports.com Select “Sponsor.” To obtain ‘thank you’ tickets for the drawing, contact John Bates at (918) 550-9257.

If sending a check or money order, please make payable to International Sports Specialists, Inc., including John Bates’ name on the memo line.

Staff writer pays tribute to OU legend

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

OKMULGEE — As the new year of 2011 begins and recollections of the past year are still fresh, it is this writer's wish to pay homage to a special man that certainly deserves a salute. Bob Barry, longtime KFOR-TV sports director and the voice of the University of the Oklahoma Sooner Football and Basketball games announced that this year would be the last that he would announce OU sports on the radio. Although he will finish out the spring games of basketball, Barry feels its time to retire after broadcasting games for the Sooners from 1961-1972 and 1991-2011.

Barry also provided coverage for Oklahoma State University football and basketball games from 1973-1990 and University of Tulsa basketball for one season. Barry has received many accolades this year and I would like to share a story about him in the short time I had the pleasure of working with him, way before I came to work at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

I was a cameraman at KFOR in 1988 and would make the commute from Norman to Oklahoma City almost daily. I had graduated the year before and was fortunate enough to get a job in what I had gone to school for. My daily trip to the city was something I was getting used to; I had even found somewhat of a short cut through the city of Moore before I had to get on to I-35, then to I-44, and exit at Britton Road where most of the local Oklahoma City stations are located. Now what does this have to do with Bob Barry? I'm getting to it.

One time I recall that I had to lend my friends my car while I was at work. Now my car, which was a Chevrolet, wasn't the greatest, but it got me around, but it had me wishing that I never had to get rid of my '69 Dodge Charger two years before, just to go to college, but we all have to make sacrifices to get through school sometimes.

My usual work shift at KFOR was to do the studio camera work in the afternoon for the 5 p.m., newscast and would continue through the 10 p.m., newscast. After the newscast at 10 p.m., the work would be finished and everyone would immediately clock out and hit the exit doors. One cameraman though, would always have to stay a little later to record the sports for the next day's early morning news show and that night happened to be my turn.

OU Athletics Communications/Ty Russell

Pictured above are University of Oklahoma Athletics Director Joe Castiglione, President David Boren and the voice of Sooner Sports, announcer Bob Barry.

Before I continue, I do want to point something out about how much local television has changed over the years. Sports news isn't recorded like this as much anymore and for sports footage to be shared between the Oklahoma City and Tulsa television stations - back then, the Turner Turnpike was often the best way to transport it.

I remember times Barry or other members of the KFOR sports department would take a videotape with Oklahoma City sports footage on it to the turnpike entrance, which wasn't very far from the station. They would ask the attendant if they would ask a traveler heading to Tulsa to drop it off at the Tulsa exit with an attendant there. Then, a person with the Tulsa station would retrieve it from there and vice-versa - not exactly ESPN, I know!

My college friends who were still hoping to find a job, were borrowing my car that day. I was going to have them pick me up after my shift but I found out this time was going to be a little different. They called me at work to tell me that my car wasn't starting and that I should find a way home.

The commute from my apartment in Norman to the station was at least a 30-minute drive and being a northeastern Oklahoma boy, I didn't know a lot of people in western Oklahoma that I could call other than my friends who had my car in the first place. I didn't know anyone who could come and get me, didn't know what I was going to do, but I was still working camera and had to concentrate on that for a while.

It always took a few minutes before the producers were actually ready to record, so I'm waiting there by the camera in the studio when in comes Barry, preparing for the recording. Bob has always been cordial and would begin to talk about anything, so we're just making small talk about the newly-constructed Broadway Extension in Oklahoma City and how it actually helps with daily travel.

"Boy, am I glad they made that Broadway Extension," says Bob, "sure does help with my commute from Norman!"

Yes, the light bulb came on, but I wasn't going ask the great Bob Barry for a ride to Norman. I did begin to think about my weekly schedule though. I was going have the next two days off and that would give me time to look at my car, fix it, and hopefully everything would be okay.

So the producer still isn't ready and we're waiting, and I'm thinking either I'm gonna beg Bob Barry for a ride or I'm walking down I-35 for a good while.

"Uh, Mr. Barry?... You couldn't give me a ride to Norman, could you?" I managed to say.

"Oh sure, no problem," he says without even thinking of it.

The relief of knowing I was getting a ride home was there, but still this was 'Mr. Oklahoma Sports' who was helping me out, so I'm thinking I better act cool or something.

We finished the recording of the sports news, so the shift was over and we proceeded to Norman in this nice 'cadillac' of a car of his. I don't know if it was an actual Cadillac, but it was a very nice car. As we go along, Bob starts asking me about my family and where I'm from, I tell him I'm from the Tulsa area and he starts telling about some of the basketball games he covered there, eventually getting to OU sports when he talks about covering the 1971 'game of the decade' between Oklahoma and Nebraska.

By now, the ride is just great as I'm listening to his stories, but then reality hits as I realize that my keys to my apartment are on my car key ring at my friend's house, who lives in another part of Norman. I explain my dilemma to him and he says that it's no problem, and we finally get to my friend's apartment to get my keys.

"Hey you won't believe who gave me a ride home tonight," I say, "Bob Barry!" They couldn't believe it and I couldn't either. I got my keys and Bob said, "If you need a ride again, just let me know, okay?" I said "thanks," but fortunately for me, I got my car fixed and the old Chevy didn't break down again so I didn't have to take Bob up on his offer.

I didn't stay too long at KFOR before moving back to Tulsa, but for my brief time there and a chance to know television production and the people that make sports happen there, Bob Barry will always be remembered to me as a good man and I wish him all the best.

OBITUARIES

LILLIE WHITLOW HARJO

WELEETKA — Lillia Harjo passed away Jan. 19, 2011 in Weleetka, Okla., at the age of 74.

Lillie was born in Wetumka and attended Pleasant Ridge School and Eufaula Boarding School.

Lillie was a homemaker and loved quilting, bead work and camping trips with her family. She was a member of Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town and Ceremonial Grounds, as well as Pecan Grove Methodist Church near Yeager.

She married Jackson Harjo on April 17, 2004 and he preceded her in death in 2008.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and brothers Henry, Mose, Sam, Wilson Scott, John Edwards Ramsey (Coonhead) and Sisters, Lucy Gray, Susie Simpson and Annie Harjo.

She is survived by five children; Victoria Johnson and husband Luther of Okemah, Joyce Whitlow Lee of Glenpool, Michael Whitlow and Sherri of Dewar, Wendell Whitlow and Dorinda of Blanchard, Mitchell Whitlow, Jr. of Okemah, her brother Turner Scott of Wetumka, Sister, Winey Yargee of Holdenville and 20 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and friends.

Services were held on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2011 at the Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Complex with Revs. John Wayne Tulsa and Nelson Scott Harjo officiating.

Interment followed at the Yeager Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home in Wetumka.

MAUREEN FOLEY

OKLAHOMA CITY — Maureen Foley was born September 9, 1947 in Holdenville, Okla., and passed from this life Jan. 19, 2011 in Oklahoma City, at the age of 63.

Maureen was raised in Hughes County and attended school in Holdenville. After graduating from Holdenville High School, she attended Haskell Indian Jr. College in Lawrence, Kan.

Foley worked for the United States Department in Washington D.C. and had one child named Irene.

Around 1979 she retired to Okla., while she worked for One-OK, Wrangler Corp., and Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a nurse aide and medical records clerk.

Foley loved cooking, casinos, window shopping and bargain hunting. She is preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, Sonny, Tome and Kenneth Foley and three sisters, Wanda Foley, Susie Kasero and Josephine Prince.

Survivors include her daughter Irene and granddaughter Skye of Wetumka, two sisters Lela Lewis of Ardmore and Anna Harris of Oklahoma City, along with several nieces and nephews and other relatives and friends.

Services were held Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2011 at the Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home Chapel in Wetumka with Rev. Woody Fields officiating.

EDMOND DUNN

TULSA — Edmond Lee (Chebon) Dunn was born Dec. 16, 1988 in Woodland, Calif. He was called home to be with the Lord on Dec. 15, 2010 in Tulsa, Okla.

Dunn is survived by his parents Gary and Julie Dunn, sister, Codi Little, two brothers, Dallas and Mikey Little, three nephews Cameron, Michael, and Aiden Little, Grandfather Ben Lowe of Sapulpa, Grandma Wilma Dunn Kellyville, two aunts Debbie Dunn of Kellyville, Sis Dunn, three uncles Darryl and Hilda lowe of San Jose Calif., Vanis Dunn of Tulsa, Ronnie Brown of Kellyville and a host of great aunts, great uncles, cousins and friends.

Dunn was preceded in death by his grandparents, Betty Rabbit, Delbert Dunn, Sr., Shirley Hardridge, great grandparents Edmond and Bertha Rabit, Ralh and Martha Dunn, Tommy and Lola Hardridge, and his uncle Delbert Dunn, Jr.

Dunn was Baptized Aug. 29. 1999 by the Late Rev. Bill Alexander and graduated with the class of 2008 from Webster High School. He enjoyed playing baseball and football. He also enjoyed playing video games, shooting pool, going to boxing events - especially keeping up with Zahar Raheem and watching him box when he was in town.

He was close to sisters, brothers nephews and family. He was always with his sister being her bodyguard and enjoyed helping his dad, mom and Pastor Reuben with whatever needed to be done at church or home. He was fond of going to Ollies on Saturdays for the breakfast buffet with his dad and sister.

Dunn was a quiet person, but would talk when it came to sports; he knew his football, his favorite college team was OU and pro team Denver Broncos.

THANK YOUS

DUNN FAMILY

TULSA — The Dunn/ Little Family would like to say Thank You to: Creek Nation LIghthorse for the escorting they did from the church in Tulsa to Morris Cemetary. They would also like to thank everyone for the prayers, flowers and food that was brought to the church and home. I would like to thank all the ladies that did the cooking and all the preachers that came and brought good messages Sunday evening. Again MVTO for everything, the love and support will not ever be forgotten by our Family. Chebon will be missed dearly by his family and friends.

BERRYHILL FAMILY

OKMULGEE — Thank you for the food, flowers, cards, prayers, monetary gifts and other acts of kindness shown to us during our recent loss. May your kindness return to you in the same manner it was given to our family. We gratefully appreciate your thoughtfulness and may God continue to bestow his many blessings upon you.

MVTO,
Martha Berryhill Family

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Tom Kennedy- Owner/ Operator
Bob McLemore
Patty Fletcher-McLemore

BIRTHDAYS

BRENNA GRESHAM

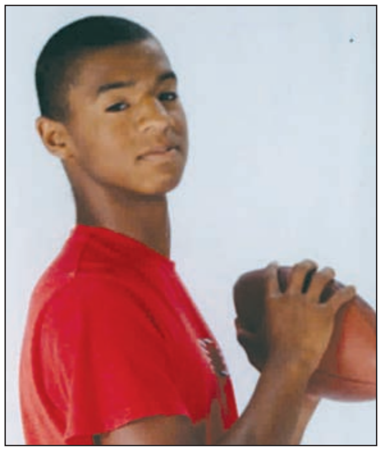
MORRIS — Brenna Elise Gresham celebrated her first birthday with a ladybug theme party on Feb. 8, 2010.

Gresham is the daughter of Forrest and Amber Gresham. She has two siblings, Kyla and Michael Dean.

Maternal grandparents are Patricia Messer and Billy McDowell and paternal grandparents are Cindy and Damon Gresham. Her maternal great grandparents are Edna and the late Bruce Messer and paternal great grand parents are Bertie Compton Russell and Joe and the late Helen Gresham.

Gresham is of the Bear Clan.

TROY JULY



CHECOTAH — Troy July celebrated his 15th birthday Dec. 18, 2010.

Troy is the son of Troy Carter and Sonya July of Checotah.

He is the grandson of the late Junior and Laura Carter the late Joe and Clara July of Checotah.

BAYLEE NEWMAN

OREGON CITY, Ore. — Baylee Marie Newman celebrated a birthday Jan. 25, 2011 with a 'Drive my Car' themed party.

Newman is the daughter of Anthony and Teri Newman. She has two siblings; A.J. and Daelyn.

Newman is the granddaughter of Tony and Reba Newman. Her great grandparents are Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Newman attends Central Catholic School.

SAVANNAH NELSON

OWASSO — Savannah Nicole Nelson celebrated her first birthday Sat. Jan. 15, 2011.

Friends and family were in attendance. Nelson is the daughter of Chase and Ashley Nelson and granddaughter of Mark and Teresa Betche and John and Lolita Nelson.

Great grandparents are Roy and Nedra Brown, Ben and Wanda McCune, Sherry and the late Clyde Betche, Roy and Doris Berg, and Donna and the late Henry Nelson.

ADRIANNA PROCTOR

COUNCIL HILL — Adrianna Jaycee Proctor recently celebrated a birthday Sept. 30, 2010 with a 'Spongebob Squarepants' party.

Proctor is the daughter of Jennifer Dear and Jeffrey Proctor. She has two siblings; Brenna Tecumseh and Jesse Proctor.

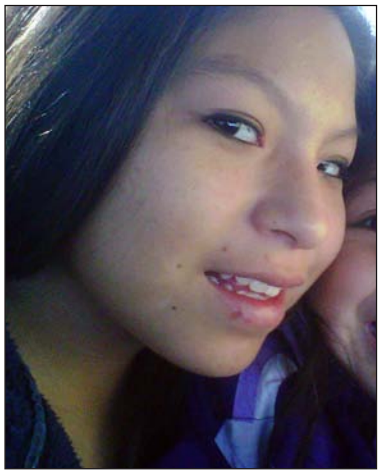
Her grandparents are Shirley Thompson of Council Hill and Joe Bear of Dustin. Her great grandparent is Minnie Proctor of Pawhuska.

Proctor is of the Bird Clan and Nuyaka Tribal Town.

BRENNA TECUMSEH

COUNCIL HILL — Brenna Tecumseh recently celebrated a birthday Dec., 3, 2010 with a 'Spongebob Squarepants' party.

Tecumseh is the daughter of Jennifer Bear and Telle Tecumseh. She has one sister Adrianna Proctor. Her grandparents are Shirley Thompson of Council Hill and Joe Bear of Dustin.



Her great grandparents are July and Norma Tecumseh and the late Russell and Cherokee Thompson.

Tecumseh attends Checotah High School, is a member of the Bird Clan and Nuyaka Tribal Town.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ERICA FREEMAN

MANHATTAN, Kan., — Erica Meria Freeman recently graduated from Kansas State University completing her Human Ecology Degree in Family Studies with specialization in Early Childhood Development.

Freeman is the daughter of Eric Freeman and Cheryl Freeman-Kongorski. She has two siblings, Jacob Tecumseh and Eli Freeman.\

Grandparents are Pat and Vera Freeman and great grandparents are the late Jess and Margaret Freeman.

CARLTON COOK

TULSA — Carlton Cook of Tulsa received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with a major in Management from Oklahoma State University in Dec.

Cook is the son of Dale and Regina Cook and brother to Tama Ray Cook.

Grandparents are Tommy and Carolyn Jones, Homer and Anna Cook, late Cecil and Ruby James and the late Adam and Hattie Jones.

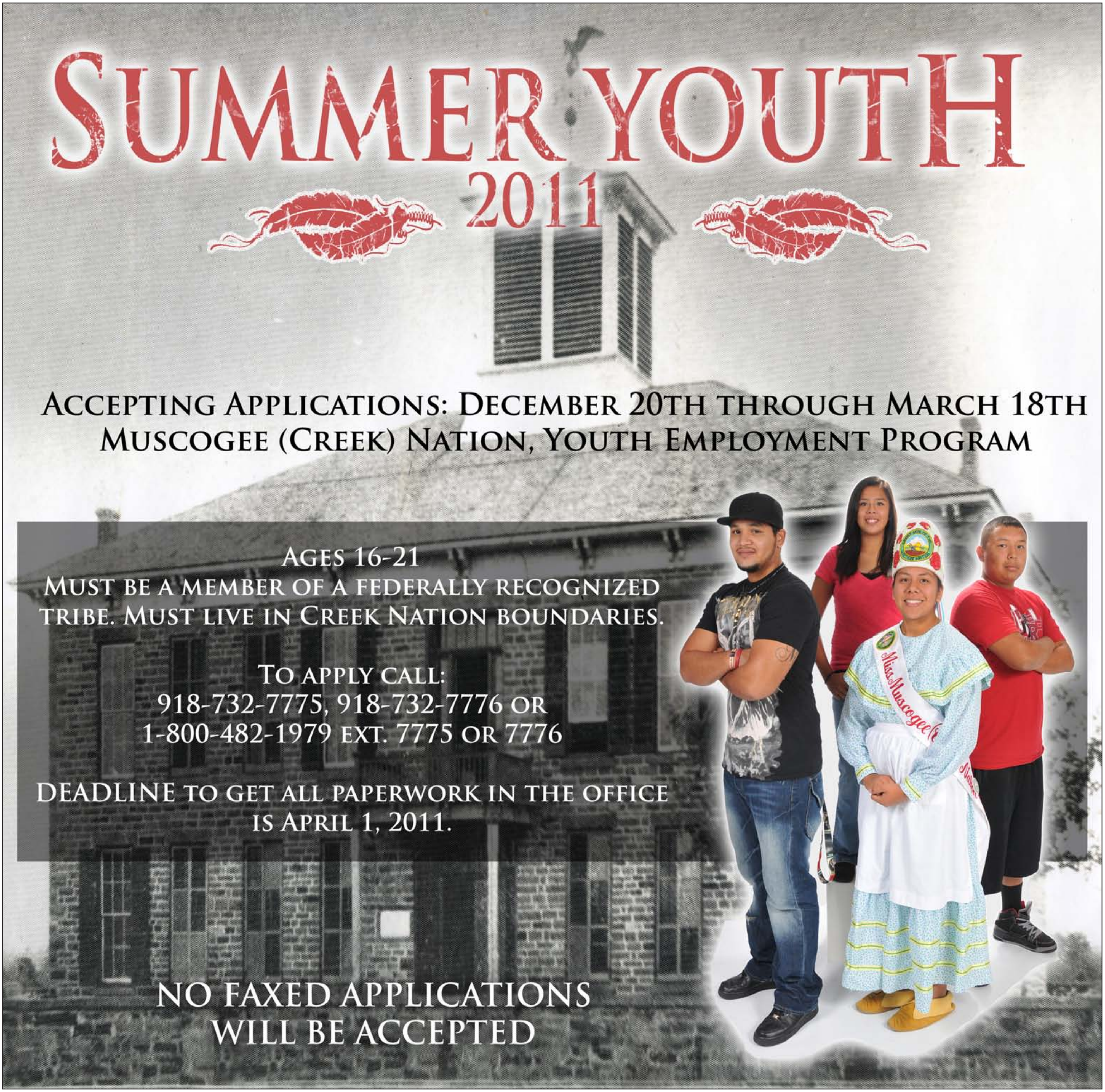
Cook is of the Bear Clan and the Coweta Tribal Town.

Send us your lifestyle news!

To submit announcements, please mail to:

MCN Communications
PO Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK
74447

If you would like your photograph returned please request a return and note the return address.
Be sure to include your city and state!



SUMMER YOUTH
2011

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS: DECEMBER 20TH THROUGH MARCH 18TH
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

AGES 16-21
MUST BE A MEMBER OF A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBE. MUST LIVE IN CREEK NATION BOUNDARIES.

TO APPLY CALL:
918-732-7775, 918-732-7776 OR
1-800-482-1979 EXT. 7775 OR 7776

DEADLINE TO GET ALL PAPERWORK IN THE OFFICE IS APRIL 1, 2011.

NO FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

March 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 4

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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MCN 2011 Challenge Bowl

• Glenpool takes elementary competition

Media Release
MCN Johnson O'Malley

MORRIS — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson O'Malley Program hosted the 2011 Challenge Bowl at the Trinity First Baptist Church located in Morris Feb. 17.

Students from public schools, churches, communities, ceremonial grounds and tribal towns were represented in the competition, which tests participants' knowledge of Muscogee (Creek) culture, history, government and language. In addition to teaching students important information regarding the structure of the tribe, one of the most important aspects of the event is teaching traditional values through good sportsmanship.

"PLANTING OF THE LONG ROOTED GRASS"
OPOTHLEYAHOLA

MNN/*Rachel Mayberry*

Pictured above is the Glenpool White Team who took first place at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl this past Feb., in the elementary division.

"The Challenge Bowl was never set up to teach our children how to win in competitions but how to learn, share and be grateful to those willing to teach them. . . The Challenge Bowl Committee made a commitment to set by example, positive role models in good citizenship and tribal pride that would carry on throughout the year and not just during the few days of competition. We set out to teach life skills of good manners, respect shown to others, self worth and to show honor in defeat while playing for the love of learning and not just to win a trophy or medal," it stated.

Winners of the event were: Glenpool White in first, Hanna Schools in second, Beggs Hawks in third and the Wilson Big Five as recipients of the Wilbur 'Chebon' Gouge Sportsmanship Award.

The middle and high school competitions are set for later this month.

MCN burial assistance update

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services applications for burial assistance are currently being completed, however all will be denied until legislation passed by the National Council appropriating funds is signed into law by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

Tribal assistance may be accepted for up to six months after applications are submitted. A new application must be filled out after that point. BIA applications are good for 30 days.

Food assistance is still being given in the amount of $200 per family for funerals. Applications are still currently being accepted and approved for this.

For more information, contact MCN Social Services at (918) 549-2445.

Internal struggles reach federal courts

Angel Ellis
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council's Petition for a Writ of Prohibition against Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Judge Patrick Moore was dismissed March 1, 2011 on several standings. The 15-page order was issued by Chief Justice Jonodev Chaudhuri, Vice Chief Justice Houston Shirley, Justice Amos McNac.

Meanwhile, the National Council has filed in United States Eastern District Court and called for assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to no avail.

This dismissal comes after the Council filed a petition with the Supreme Court asking for the removal of Judge Moore's authority. Prior to National Council filing the petition with the MCN Supreme Court, District Court Judge Patrick Moore issued an order and judgments of indirect civil contempt.

SEE CONTEMPT - B5

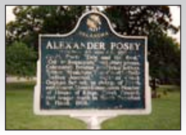
A2 EXECUTIVE
Letters to the Editor

A3 LEGAL
Letter from the Editor and legal notices

A4 LEGAL
MCN District Court filings

A5 CAPITOL NEWS
Veterans' Scoop

A7 HISTORY
And Still the Waters Run: *North Fork Town*



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Editorial Assistant - Angel Ellis
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Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

NAJA

Letters to the Editor

National Council refuses to recognize Judge

OKMULGEE — A tribal court judge who was stripped of his authority to hear cases before the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's tribal courts continues to refuse to step down and vacate his position. Former judge, Patrick Moore, continues to operate as a tribal court judge and has recently threatened contempt charges against members of the National Council and the Council's attorneys. Moore stated in a hearing held Wednesday that he would have court orders on Friday. However, none of the accused has been given due process and they have been denied a jury trial. "Patrick Moore has no legal authority to serve as a judge of the Muscogee Creek Nation. It is an outrage that Mr. Moore has the audacity to continue to issue invalid and illegal orders as well as to attempt to hold National Council members and their attorneys in contempt," said Council Member A.J. Jones.

The issuance of Moore's contempt order stems from a Petition for Contempt filed in the Nation's former district court by Chief A.D. Ellis in September of 2010. In that petition, Chief A.D. Ellis alleged the National Council infringed on his authority to prepare an annual budget by passing laws and holding budget hearings. Ironically, the National Council as the legislative branch of the government is charged with passing legislation and appropriating money. The budget that Ellis presented was over 20 million in deficit. Additionally, in order for members of the National Council to make informed decisions on whether or not to vote for the proposed budget, fact finding must occur. "It is absurd that Patrick Moore would hold the National Council in contempt for holding budget hearings and passing laws, that's what the legislative branch does and the budget hearing process is an integral part of the legislative process. It is vital that the National Council hear the views of interested parties, provide transparency in government, and provide an avenue for feedback on how the Nation's funds are expended," said Representative Bill Fife

A previous opinion of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court requires that the both branches of government must work together to complete the budget process and that negotiations must occur. Under tribal law the National Council has the right to ask the Principal Chief or a Department Manager to identify and explain the funds budgeted in order to determine if the monies are needed. The National Council has not made any line item changes in the budget, even though under a new constitutional amendment the National Council can treat the budget like any other piece of legislation which includes making changes. The Council contends that without holding hearings to ascertain proper financial information it would be placed in an unfair position during any negotiation process.

Under the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Constitution, the National Council has the power and authority to ordain and establish inferior courts as well as to confirm all tribal court judges. The National Council has not confirmed Patrick Moore's appointment as tribal judge since his term expired in June of last year and since a new court system has been established. Moore's attempts to find Council members in contempt and potentially jail them for "misconduct prejudicial to the administration of justice" may not be enough to escape a vote on a veto override scheduled for Saturday which would again formally remove Moore as a tribal Judge, and would also remove Moore's cousin, Marcy Moore, as Attorney General. "Mr. Moore's continued disregard for tribal law, including the tribal Constitution, and his insistence on continuing to act as tribal judge when he has no legal authority to do so exposes himself to personal liability and jeopardizes the legitimacy of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's judicial system.," said Council Member Bill Fife.

Because Mr. Moore continues to hold himself out as a judge of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation without any legal authority to do so, he is not cloaked with judicial immunity. Such immunity is a form of legal immunity which protects judges and others employed by the judiciary from lawsuits brought against them for official conduct in office. In this case, National Council Members and their attorneys contend Mr. Moore's actions and conduct are not protected. In fact, Patrick Moore may face a personal lawsuit to answer for his actions. Tulsa attorney, John Campbell said, "The National Council members as well as the National Council's attorneys who have been issued contempt orders intend to vigorously defend their rights, including seeking relief in the federal courts and personal action against Mr. Moore."

The National Council has requested that the Principal Chief, A.D. Ellis, immediately submit judicial nominations in accordance with tribal law in order to protect the interests of the Nation and to preserve the integrity of the Nation's court system. Chief Ellis has failed or refused to offer any nominations. Presumably Chief Ellis is relying upon an order issued by one three Judge faction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court that was later rescinded by an equal number of Justices. This confusing series of orders from the Supreme Court were issued merely as dicta in a case wholly unrelated to the status of Mr. Moore. As such, said orders provide no guidance to the Nation. Speaker Roger Barnett is dismayed by Moore's actions. "It is a shame that one individual could cause such turmoil, pain and embarrassment to a Nation of our size. He should realize he has been the common denominator in the issues facing the Nation," said Barnett. "Although I don't believe lawsuits between the branches of government are the best option for the people, at least if he had stepped down and the Principal Chief had submitted a valid nomination, they would have continued under a legally seated Judge.

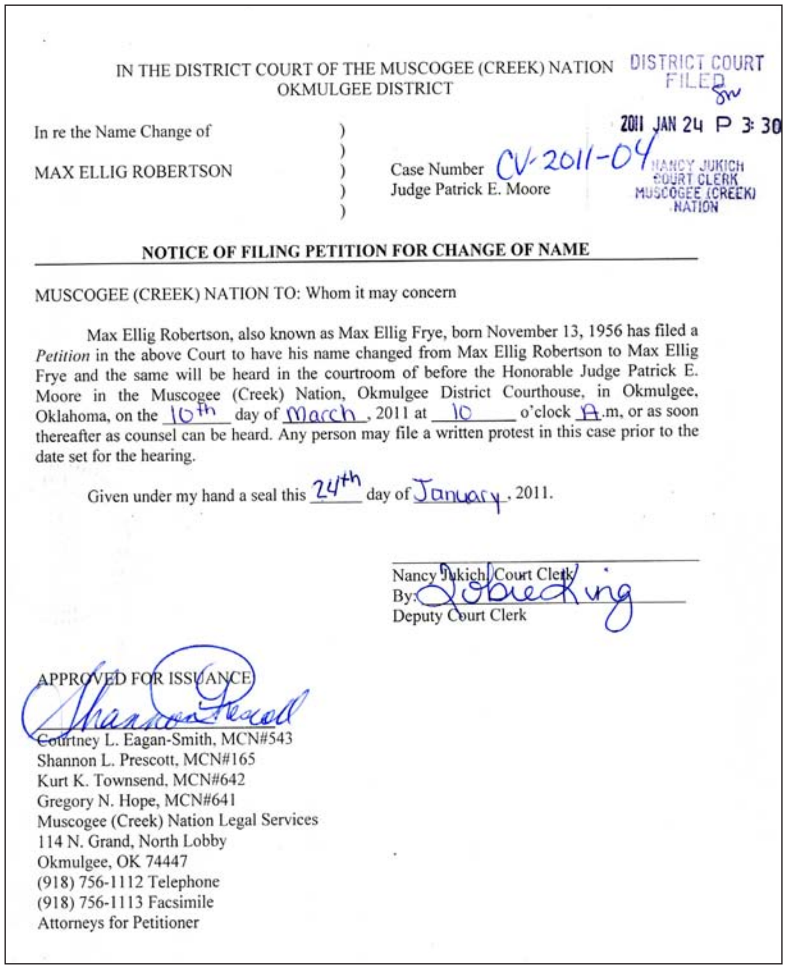
—National Council Speaker Roger Barnett

Citizen requests cardiac recovery unit in Tulsa

TULSA — My name is Michael D. McHenry and I am writing to you today for help in getting cardiac rehab here in Tulsa. On November 27, 2010 I had a heart attack. I called 911 and they rushed me to Southcrest Hospital in Tulsa. On November 30, 2010 I had a triple bypass to save my life. The Miracle of Life Today and hopefully many more to come. I was released on December 5, 2010. I was scheduled to start rehab at Southcrest, which is only 6 miles from my home. Unfortunately our tribe doesn't have a contract with Southcrest Hospital. So I have to be driven to Okmulgee to the George Nigh Rehabilitation. Thankfully the Koweta CHR program takes me to Okmulgee three times a week even though I am not supposed to be in a car for over 30 minutes a day.

I am disabled and maybe for the rest of my life. What I am asking for is for the next tribe member. My trip takes me 150 miles round trip. How is this saving our tribe money. Please help the next tribal member, time and money, we need cardiac rehab here in Tulsa. Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Sincerely,
Michael D. McHenry



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
SM
2011 JAN 24 P 3:30
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the Name Change of)
)
MAX ELLIG ROBERTSON) Case Number CV-2011-04
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

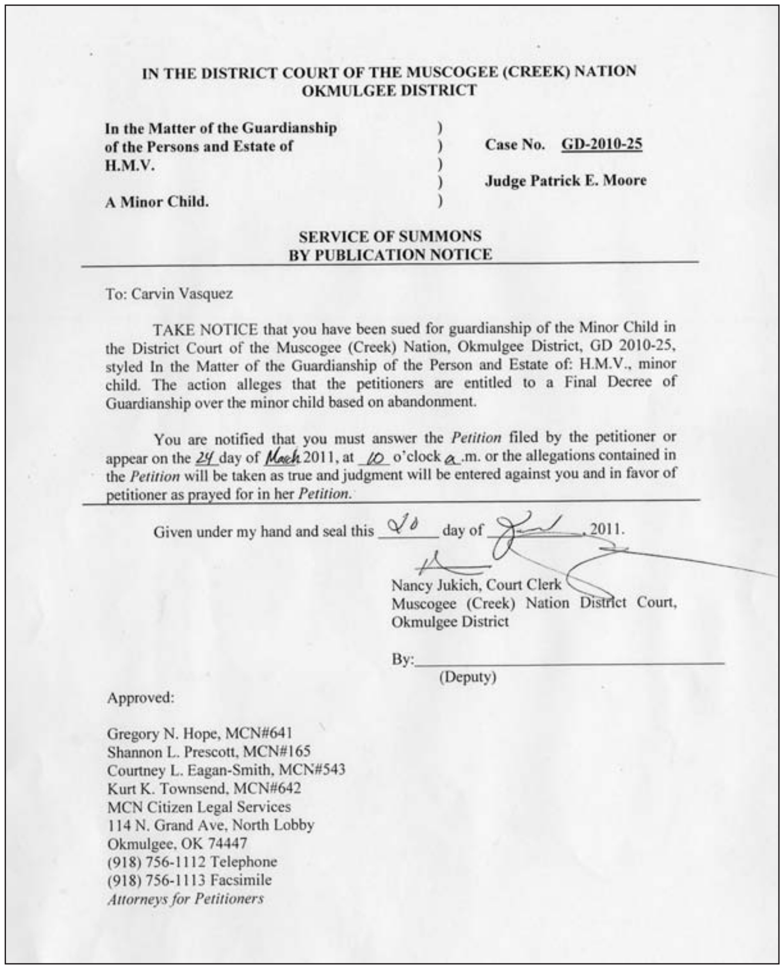
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Max Ellig Robertson, also known as Max Ellig Frye, born November 13, 1956 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Max Ellig Robertson to Max Ellig Frye and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 10th day of March, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 24th day of January, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Jobie King
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE
Shannon Prescott
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT**

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estate of) **Case No. GD-2010-25**
H.M.V.)
) **Judge Patrick E. Moore**
A Minor Child.)

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To: Carvin Vasquez

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2010-25, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: H.M.V., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 24 day of March 2011, at 10 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

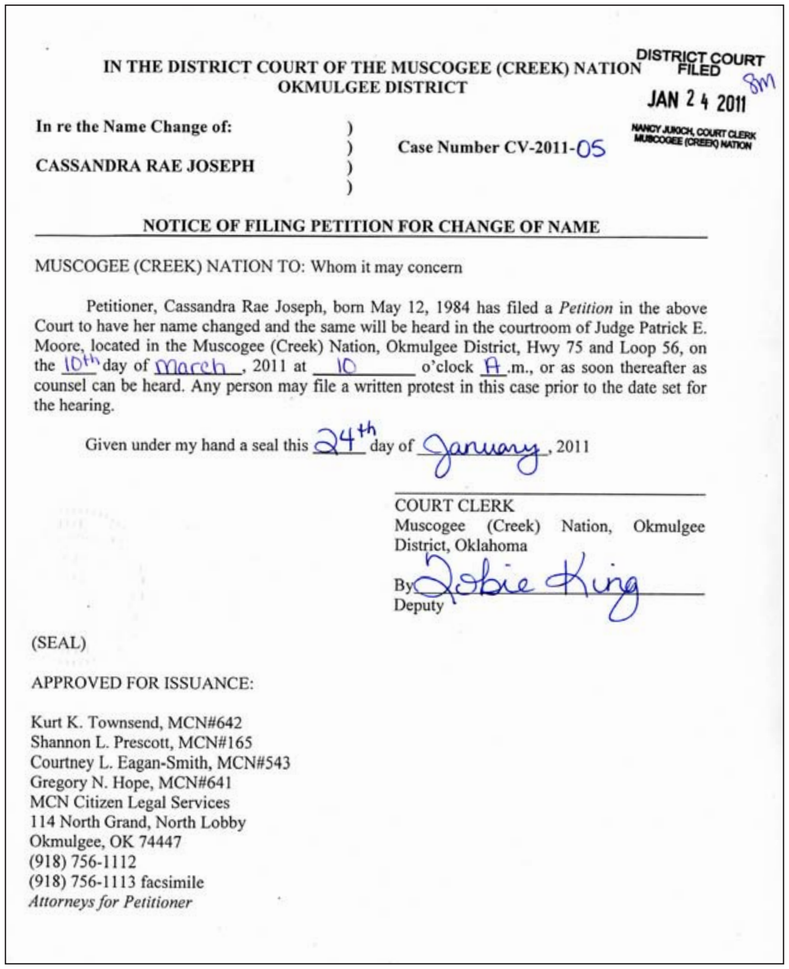
Given under my hand and seal this 20 day of [illegible], 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By:
(Deputy)

Approved:

Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioners



**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT**

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
SM
JAN 24 2011
NANCY JUKICH, COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the Name Change of:)
) **Case Number CV-2011-05**
CASSANDRA RAE JOSEPH)
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Petitioner, Cassandra Rae Joseph, born May 12, 1984 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Hwy 75 and Loop 56, on the 10th day of March, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 24th day of January, 2011

COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma
By Jobie King
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
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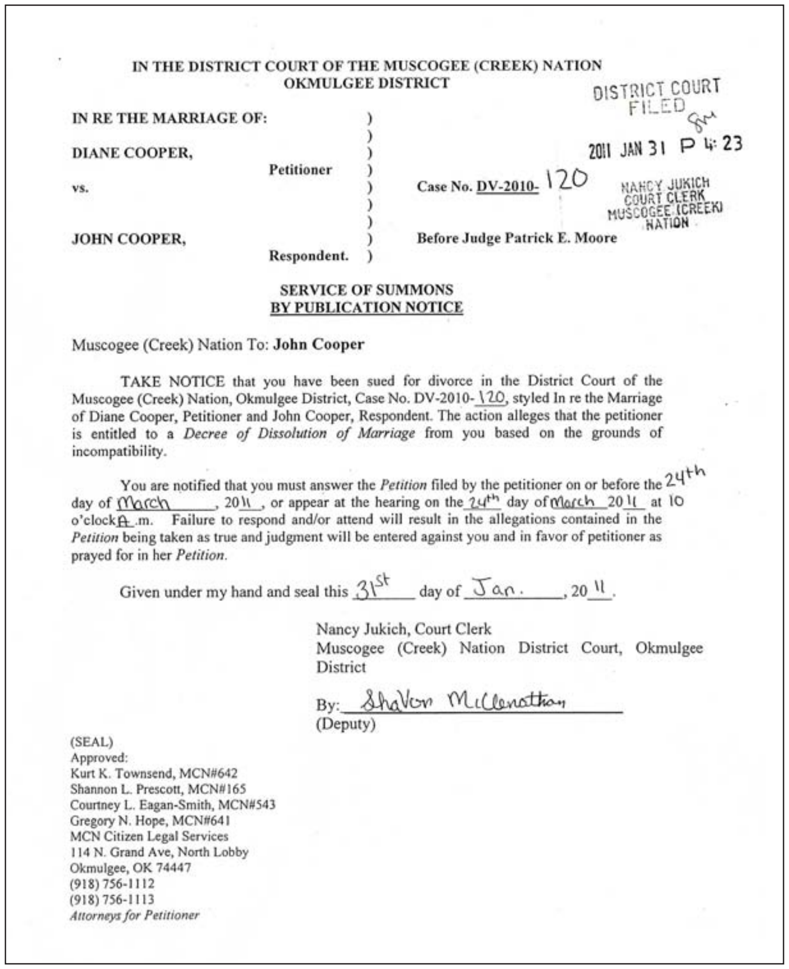
Attorneys for Petitioner



**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT**

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
SM
2011 JAN 31 P 4:23
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:)
)
DIANE COOPER,)
Petitioner)
vs.) **Case No. DV-2010-** 120
)
)
JOHN COOPER,) **Before Judge Patrick E. Moore**
Respondent.)

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: **John Cooper**

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2010-120, styled In re the Marriage of Diane Cooper, Petitioner and John Cooper, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 24th day of March, 2011, or appear at the hearing on the 24th day of March 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 31st day of Jan., 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: ShaVon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko!

The word 'March' is derived from the Roman god of war, Mars. As such, some may say 'war' is an entirely applicable term for recent political struggles between the branches of government.

I am often asked if we feel political pressure from these disagreements during these times and want to respond. We as tribal media feel a tremendous responsibility during this time to report accurate information each time we publish. It is our pleasure to serve as a watchdog and provide transparency regarding our government.

We also have an obligation to provide each of the branches an opportunity to speak directly to the citizens through the Muscogee Nation News. I enjoy hearing from my elected officials directly and want to know they have my best interests in mind.

We are in a very unique position as citizens, employees and news hounds to not only be able to report on political issues, but also cast our votes and ultimately be affected by the results.

As journalists, we also have an obligation to provide balanced coverage without bias and it's one that my staff and I take seriously. This comes with it's own set of challenges but I believe we're up to the task. Mvto for giving us the opportunity to serve the Mvskoke people in this medium.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

MCN Festival set for June 23-26

Muscogee Nation
Festival
37th annual
2011
Celebrate
Life!

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

Sign-ups for both slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball are now available on-line and through the Tourism & Recreation Office.

Commemorative Festival 2011 mugs in four designs are available for purchase for $8 each as well as raffle tickets to win a 2011 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200 Low. Tickets for the motorcycle are available for $5 each or five for $20. The drawing is open to everyone and winner will be announced and awarded on Saturday, June 25, 2011 after 6 p.m. Participants need not be present to win.

Sponsorships are still available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

District Court filings for Nov. 2010

The District Court filings from Nov. 1, 2010 through Nov. 31, 2010 are as follows:

Traffic:

MCN v. Ryan Fernandez	Expired Tag
MCN v. Stan Chadic	No Insurance
MCN v. Stan Chadic	DUS
MCN v. Samantha Juarez	DUS
MCN v. Samantha Juarez	Expired Tag
MCN v. Samantha Juarez	No Insurance
MCN v. Cassandra Deere	DUS
MCN v. Arthur Berryhill	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Arthur Berryhill	Expired Tag
MCN v. Starla Phillips	Expired Tag
MCN v. Derick Koehn	DL Expired
MCN v. Alberto Arroyo	DUS
MCN v. Renee Ramsey	Expired Tag
MCN v. Renee Ramsey	No Insurance
MCN v. Trina Gertz	DUS
MCN v. Ashly Priest	Expired Tag
MCN v. Venesta Davis	Starting, Turning, Stopping w/o regard to safety
MCN v. Terry Lee Balocca	DUS

District Court filings for Dec. 2010

The District Court filings from Dec. 1, 2010 through Dec. 31, 2010 are as follows:

Civil:

Best Loan Service v. Christopher Feeling	Small Claims
St. John Health System, Inc. v. Gail & David Ford	Foreign Judgment
Tiffany Whittenberg v. Kewan Jackson	Petition
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau, Inc. v. Cheryl Martin	Foreign Judgment
Creditors Recovery Corp v. Ruth & Barney Ingram	Foreign Judgment

Divorce:

Wyiquita Bear v. Clifford Bear	Divorce
Stephanie Sutton v. Albert Sutton	Divorce
Elizabeth Geesaman v. Bryan Geesaman	Divorce
Diane Cooper v. John Cooper	Divorce
Consuelo Jones v. Rodney Jones	Divorce
William Haney v. Kallie Haney	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Erica Endres v. Brett Pigeon	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Pamela Yargee v. Jerome Yazzie	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Effie Dewitt v. Scott King	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kelly Gathman v. Dean Simmons	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jennifer Mitchell v. Christopher Mitchell	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Whitney Pingleton v. Vincent Madden	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Delicia Davison v. Ron Henderson	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Robyn Wilson v. Tyrone Beck	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Resia Sparks v. Matthew Wooten & Janie Adams	Ex-Parte
Patricia Mielcarek v. Mathew Wooten & Janie Adams	Ex-Parte
Sophia Stallman v. Mathew Wooten & Janie Adams	Ex-Parte
Sharee Edmondson v. Bryon Edmondson	Ex-Parte
Harvey & Joann Fox v. Gerald Dillingham	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Minnie Mitchell	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Timothy Yahola	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Harland McGriff	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Christina Phillips	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Marian Turner	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Rita Tiger	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Ben Yahola	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Marquetta Harrison	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Sharona Wolf	Ct. 1: Violation of Mandatory Community Audit & Reporting Requirements
MCN v. Daniel Buck	Ct. 1: Trespassing Ct. 2: Malicious Mischief

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Chris Fixico	Ct. 1: Assault & Battery
MCN v. Stephen Foreman	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
MCN v. Lance Trepp	Ct. 1: Poss. of Illegal Drug Para.
MCN v. Leonard Pyles	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS

Traffic:

MCN v. James Posey	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Temarkeya Oliver	DUS
MCN v. Earl Ray Abner	DUS
MCN v. Earl Ray Abner	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Kristy Ramsey	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Paula Randolph	Starting, Turning, & Stopping without Regard to Safety

Marriage Licenses:

Lisa Powell and Willie Lewis	Marriage License
Jason Payne and Carrie Swem	Marriage License

District Court filings for 2011

The District Court filings from Jan. 1, 2011 through Feb. 28, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Suzanne Hillis v. Corey Harrison Jr.	Petition
Jonathan Pickering v. Christina Gonzales	Petition
Star Loans v. Brian Proctor	Small Claims
Max Ellig Robertson	Petition
Cassandra Joseph	Petition
Delilah Harjo v. Kevin Barker	Petition
MCN Housing Authority v. Michelle O'Donnell	Complaint
Nathan E. Anderson, et al. v. Dorothy L. Burden, et al.	Complaint

Veterans' Scoop

Staff
Veterans Affairs Services Office

The Veterans' Scoop will feature articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Veterans urged to sign up for direct deposit

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefits by March 1, 2013. Officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) urge Veterans to sign up for electronic payment of their benefits.

"Receiving VA benefits electronically will increase the security, convenience and reliability of these vital payments," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "VA encourages Veterans who are now receiving their benefits in paper checks to set up direct deposits before the deadline."

On March 1, 2013, VA will stop issuing paper checks. People who do not have electronic payments for their federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card. Called the Direct Express card, it is issued by Comerica Bank as the financial agent of the U.S. Treasury.

Another deadline affects people receiving VA's compensation or pensions for the first time after May 1, 2011. Those people will automatically receive the benefits electronically.

Anyone already receiving federal benefit payments electronically will be unaffected by the changes. To learn more about the federal government's switch to direct deposit – or to change VA benefits to direct deposit -- visit www.GoDirect.org. Information about the federal government's "Go Direct" campaign is also available at 1-800-333-1795.

Along with payments for VA benefit, the change will also affect recipients of payments from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management.

For more information about VA benefits and programs, go to www.va.gov or call toll free 1-800-827-1000.

Aid for Korean War veterans exposed to Agent Orange

WASHINGTON, D.C., — Veterans exposed to herbicides while serving along the demilitarized zone (DMZ) in Korea will have an easier path to access quality health care and benefits under a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) final regulation that will expand the dates when illnesses caused by herbicide exposure can be presumed to be related to Agent Orange.

VA will presume herbicide exposure for any Veteran who served between April 1, 1968, and Aug. 31, 1971, in a unit determined by VA and the Department of Defense (DoD) to have operated in an area in or near the Korean DMZ in which herbicides were applied.

In practical terms, eligible Veterans who have specific illnesses VA presumes to be associated with herbicide exposure do not have to prove an association between their illness and their military service. This "presumption" simplifies and speeds up the application process for benefits and ensures that Veterans receive the benefits they deserve.

Additional information is available at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange.

Cobell settlement deadline set for April 20, 2011

Media Release
Desautel Hege Communications

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Court-ordered process of notifying individual Indians of their right to participate in the historic $3.4 billion class action Settlement, Cobell v. Salazar, is underway. The Settlement resolves claims related to Individual Indian Money (or IIM) accounts and land held in trust by the federal government for the benefit of individual Indians.

Class Members all over the country are receiving detailed information about their legal rights and options via U.S. Mail. Information will also be provided through an extensive media campaign, which includes Native America print media, television and radio ads, and online advertising.

On Dec. 21, 2010, U.S. Senior District Judge Thomas F. Hogan granted preliminary approval of the Settlement, setting in motion a process through which hundreds of thousands of individual Indians who have or had government-managed IIM accounts or trust lands may receive some of the $3.4 billion Settlement Fund.

The judge's approval came after Congress passed and the President signed legislation approving the Settlement. Current estimates project that most Class Members will receive about $1,800, with some Class Members receiving much more depending on the level of activity in their IIM accounts.

The $3.4 billion Settlement was reached between the Departments of the Interior and Treasury and the individual Indian plaintiffs in December 2009. The Settlement resolves the government's failure to provide an historical accounting for IIM accounts and also resolves claims that the government mismanaged funds and other trust assets, including royalties owed to individual Indians for oil, gas, grazing, and other leases of individual Indian lands, mostly in the West.

The Settlement provides a $1.5 billion fund to compensate an estimated 500,000 affected individual Indian trust beneficiaries who have or had IIM accounts or own trust land. The Settlement creates two groups of Class Members eligible to receive money from the fund—the Historical Accounting Class and the Trust Administration Class.

- The Historical Accounting Class comprises individual Indians who were alive on September 30, 2009, who had an open IIM account anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, and whose account had at least one cash transaction.
- The Trust Administration Class comprises individual Indians alive on September 30, 2009, who had an IIM Account at any time from 1985 through September 30, 2009, recorded in currently available electronic data in federal government systems, as well as individual Indians who, as of September 30, 2009, had a recorded or demonstrable interest in land held in trust or restricted status.
- The estates of deceased Class Members will also receive a Settlement distribution if the deceased beneficiary's account was open as of September 30, 2009, or their land interest was open in probate as of that date. Other eligibility conditions and requirements for each Class are detailed in the Settlement Agreement.

Under the Settlement Agreement, $1.9 billion will fund a Department of the Interior program to buy fractionated interests in trust or restricted land from willing sellers to benefit tribal communities and aid in land consolidation. Depending on the level of participation in the land consolidation program, up to $60 million will be set aside to provide scholarships for higher education for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

Information about the Settlement and legal rights is available to all American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The web site www.IndianTrust.com and toll-free number 1-800-961-6109 are available to provide more information about the Settlement and the legal rights of Class Members. Individuals who are unsure whether they are included in the Settlement should visit the website or call the toll-free number for more information.

Class Members who receive a formal notice in the mail about the Settlement and who are currently receiving IIM account statements do not have to do anything to receive payment. Individuals who believe they should be part of the Settlement but do not receive a notice in the mail or are not receiving IIM account statements need to fill out a Claim Form as soon as possible, available at the Indian Trust web site or by calling the toll-free number.

Individuals wishing to keep their right to sue the federal government over mismanagement claims covered by the Settlement must exclude themselves from the Settlement by April 20, 2011. Class Members can also submit written comments or objections about any Settlement terms that concern them by April 20, 2011.

Absentee ballot request forms to be mailed July 5, 2011

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released dates for the upcoming 2011 elections for Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don't receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

CASA training set for March 28

Media Release
Okmulgee CASA

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee County/Creek Nation CASA Program was established in 1987 and has been training community volunteers ever since. "Since our inception, I can't imagine the number of children our organization, specifically CASA advocates, has helped", stated Kim Deer, Interim Director. I have seen miracles happen in these children's lives because one individual spoke up and said "abused children deserve a chance"

The Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA) in Okmulgee County trains community volunteers to make informed recommendations on what is in the best interest of abused or neglected children.

CASA volunteers work in the courtrooms of Judge Duane Woodliff in Okmulgee County State Court and Judge Patrick Moore in the MCN District Court. Okmulgee County/Creek Nation CASA combined has over 40 volunteers, but according to Nancy Hancock, Okmulgee County CASA Volunteer Coordinator, it is just not enough.

"I have a filing cabinet full of children we just can't help because we do not have enough CASA advocates," Hancock stated.

The goal of the CASA program is to give every child that has been abused or neglected voice. They deserve it.

CASA training starts March 28, 2011. Please call Nancy Hancock for more information at (918) 756-2549 or e-mail at casaokm8@sbcglobal.net.

Division of Health now recruiting focus group participants

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for people to volunteer their time to participate in a focus group which will concentrate on patient experiences within Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers.

If you are a patient, legal guardian of a patient, family member of a patient or concerned community member and you would like to participate in a focus group regarding Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers please contact Anne Edwards, Patient Advocacy Coordinator at (918) 756-3334 ext. 287, call 1-877-579-4911 or e-mail anne.edwards@creekhealth.org

LIHEAP and Tribal Energy available through March 31

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department offers two programs in the winter for heating assistance.

New participants may apply beginning Jan. 10, 2011. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2011, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries.

The Tribal Energy program is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits.

To apply for either of these programs, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 - 4 p.m. Offices are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn.: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please do not mail CDIB/citizenship cards or original documents.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to (918) 549-2494 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. Call Social Services at (918) 549-2445 to find out when we'll be in your area. Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal enrollment cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Driver's license for those without a tribal enrollment card

3) Gas bill OR Propane vendor OR Wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric. You may be asked to verify this.)

4) Copies of all income sources – this is for LIHEAP and Tribal Energy

5) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

6) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

7) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities and/or deposits.

8) Additional documentation may be required based on your individual situation.

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Muscogee (creek) Nation Social Services at (918) 549-2445 for additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 2445.

And Still the Waters Run: *North Fork Town*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — Once the most important town in McIntosh County, today's youth probably have never heard of it. It was at the crossroads of the Texas Road & California Trail, a few miles east of present day Eufaula, Okla.

John Davis, a full-blood Creek is said to have come first, in 1829. He was a Baptist man, though missionaries were then banned by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (converts could receive fifty lashes for being baptized). Nonetheless, believers still joined.

Another important citizen was Joseph Island. Converted by a former slave, Island established the North Fork Church in 1844 and was pastor until his death in 1848. All his neighbors and friends had then gathered at his home. When the announcement came of his passing, a huge burst of grief (lamentations) was raised to heaven. Methodists opened Asbury Mission one mile east of the town in 1850, with over 100 students in attendance.

A "Grand Council" was called by Native American leaders on the Deep Fork River near the small village in 1842. The Upper and Lower Creeks and 13 other tribes were invited, along with some white men. Creeks were the hosts and supplied food for 2,500 people camped in a two-mile area. Even Gen. Zachary Taylor was there. The purpose was to adopt rules of conduct for all, paving the way for peace among all tribes.

The gold rush brought wagon trains. The village became a booming trading center.

The town grew daily and small fortunes were made. The Butlers had a store, as did the Whitlows and the Stidhams. A party of Mormons came in 1849 and worked one year, before heading for Ill. The Nero's, a Black family, had a successful business and nice home there, as did many others. One observer wrote there were 300 residents.

The Civil War damaged North Fork Town badly. Many families fled and the town became a Confederate headquarters.

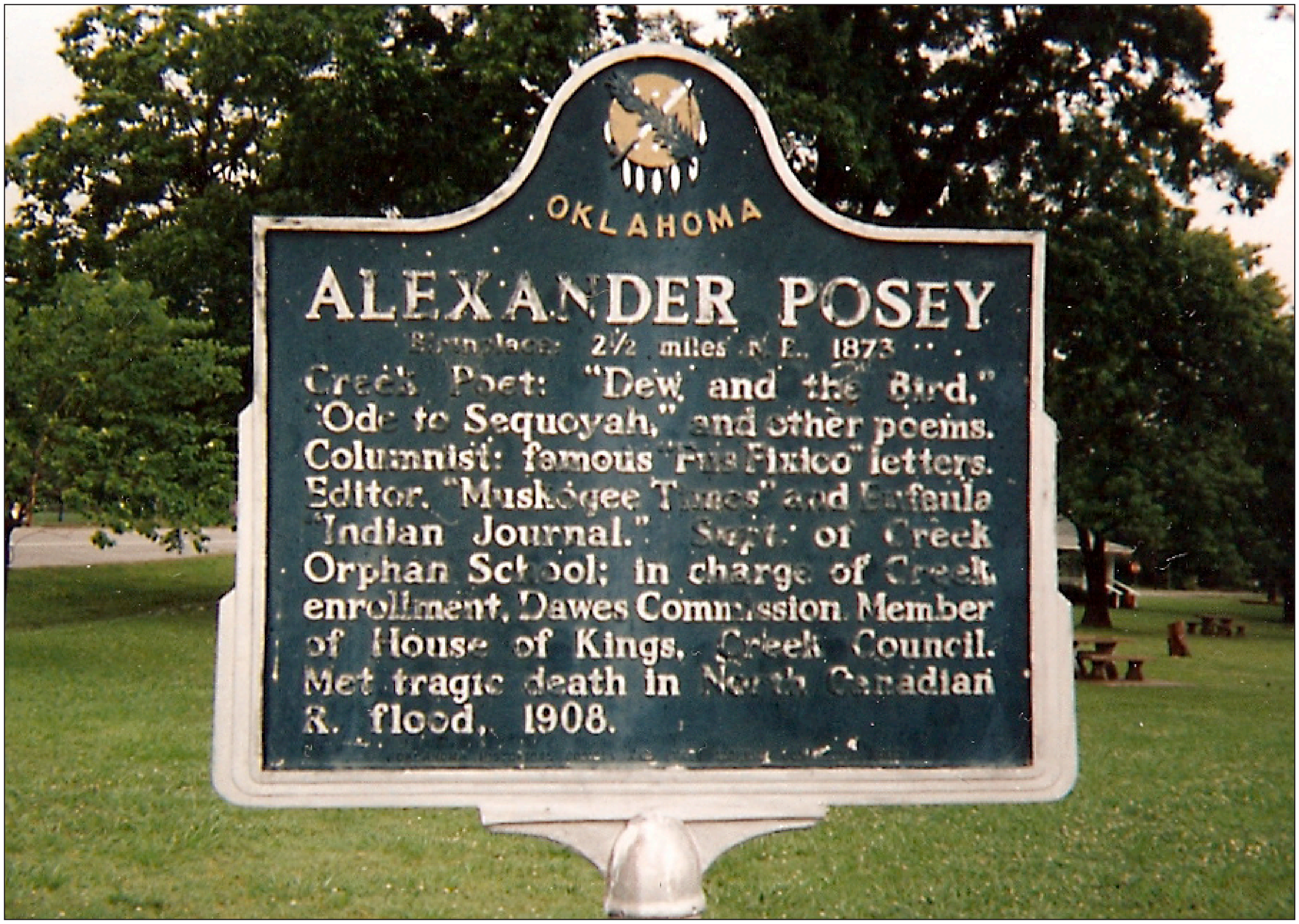

OKLAHOMA
ALEXANDER POSEY
Birthplace: 2½ miles N.E., 1873
Creek Poet: "Dew and the Bird," "Ode to Sequoyah," and other poems. Columnist: famous "Fus Fixico" letters. Editor, "Muskogee Times" and Eufaula "Indian Journal." Supt. of Creek Orphan School; in charge of Creek enrollment, Dawes Commission. Member of House of Kings, Creek Council. Met tragic death in North Canadian R. flood, 1908.

Photo courtesy/*George Windes*

Famed Muscogee (Creek) poet Alexander Posey drowned in the North Canadian River near North Fork Town in 1908.

It was rebuilt after the war and the post office was reestablished in 1867. The town was designated one of three colored towns among the 46 original settlements of the Creek Nation. A Negro, the Rev. Sugar T. George, served as the town "Micco" for 26 years.

Major changes were coming as railroads began crisscrossing the Muscogee Nation. The Katy Railroad reached the area in 1872, though the tracks were laid two miles west of North Fork Town. Soon businesses began moving to be near the railroad. The Asbury Mission burnt and a Boarding School was built in Eufaula, continuing its work. The old town site was eventually planted in pecan trees. Called "Old Town or Micco," it was mostly covered by water when Lake Eufaula was built in 1961. Asbury Cemetery was relocated to Eufaula, while North Fork Cemetery was relocated to Fishertown.

A tragedy, which affected all Creeks, happened near North Fork Town in 1908. Our well-known poet, Alexander Posey, was drowned in the North Canadian River.

His body was found two months later, embedded in sand nine miles south of Eufaula. Posey was laid to rest in Green Hill Cemetery at Muskogee, his monument engraved with a stanza from one of his poems:

"To a Daffodil"

"When death has shut the blue sky out from me, Sweet Daffodil,

And years roll on without my memory,

Thou'lt reach thy tender fingers down to mine of clay, a true friend still,

Although I'll never know thee till the Judgment Day."

Another poem of Alex Posey seemed to prophesy of his tragic early death:

"My Fancy"

"Why do trees along the river - Lean so far out o'er the tide? Very wise men tell me why, but I am never satisfied: And so I keep my fancy still - That trees lean out to save the drowning from the clutches of - The cold, remorseless wave."

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

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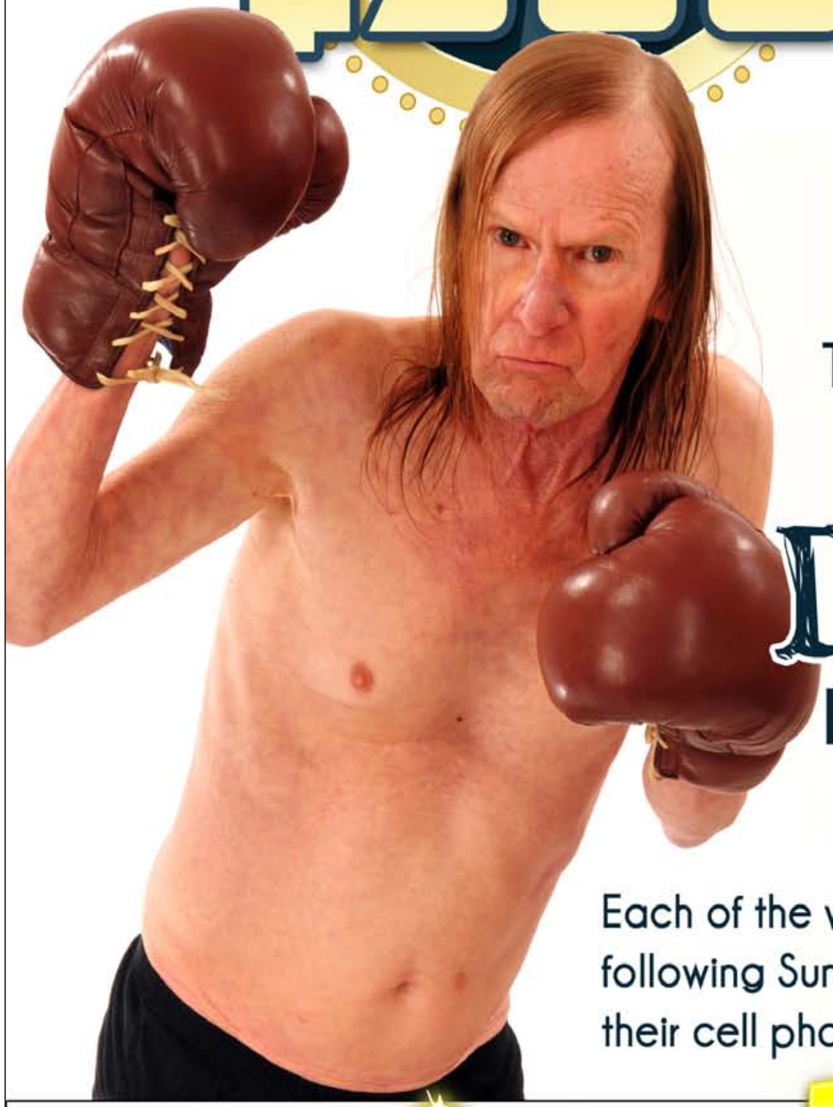

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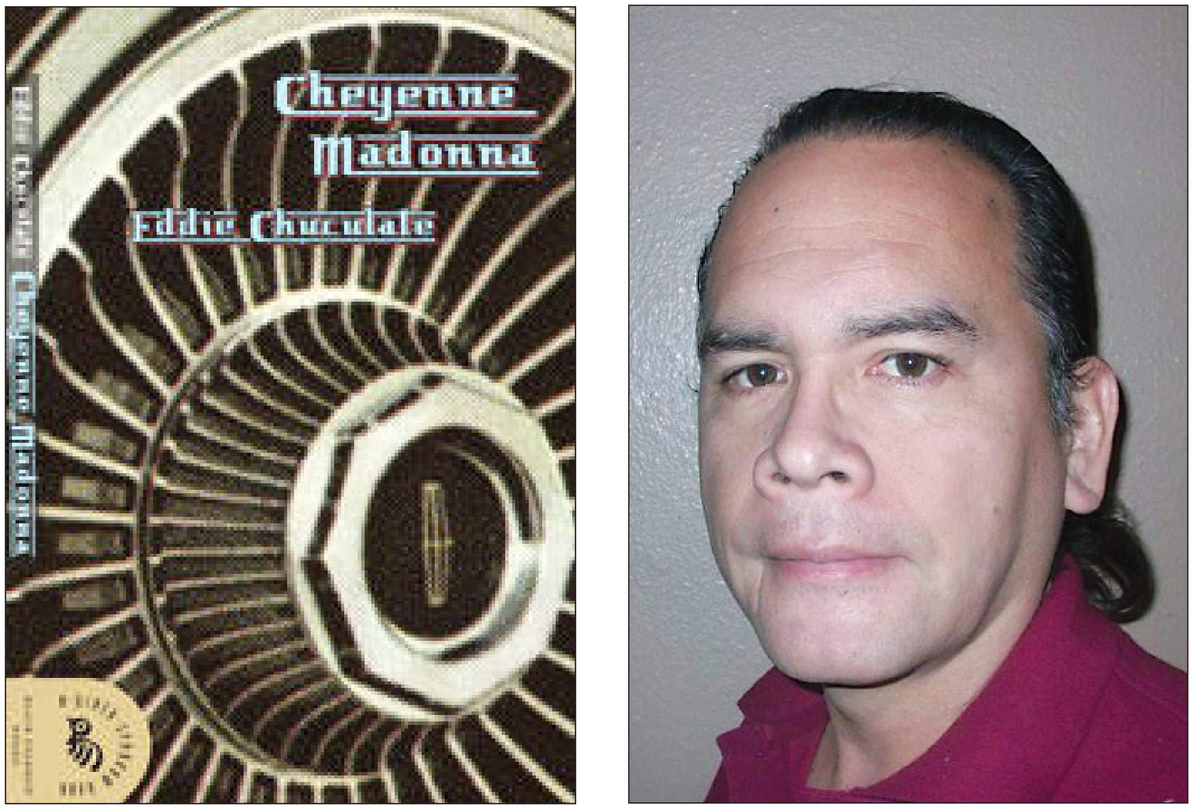
FEATURES

SECTION B

March 1, 2011 edition

‘Cheyenne Madonna’ tops OCB list

• Chuculate named Oklahoma Center for the Book finalist



Photos courtesy/Eddie Chuculate

Pictured above is Muscogee (Creek) author Eddie Chuculate and the cover of book nominated for an Oklahoma Center for the Book award, “Cheyenne Madonna.”

Media Release
Oklahoma Center for the Book

OKLAHOMA CITY — Creek citizen Eddie Chuculate’s book of short stories, “Cheyenne Madonna,” has been selected one of six finalists for the 22nd annual Oklahoma Book Award in fiction, the Oklahoma Center for the Book said recently.

Winners in five categories will be announced at the awards ceremony April 9,2011 at the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame/Jim Thorpe Museum on North Lincoln in Oklahoma City, the OCB said in a press release.

Other categories are poetry, children/young adult, design/illustration, and nonfiction. Thirty-two finalists were picked out of 122 entries.

Previous Oklahoma Book Award winners include N. Scott Momaday, Creek citizen Joy Harjo, Woody Guthrie, Ralph Ellison, Linda Hogan, Tony Hillerman, S.E. Hinton, Billie Letts, Rilla Askew, Diane Glancy and Stewart O’Nan.

“Cheyenne Madonna” was published in Sept. 2010 by Black Sparrow Books, an imprint of David R. Godine, Publisher, in Boston.

Chuculate, a Muskogee native, is pursuing a master of fine arts degree at the University of Iowa’s Iowa Writers’ Workshop.

Head Start Program now accepting applications

Media Release
MCN Head Start

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application.

All races and ethnicities may apply. Interested applicants should begin the application process now, as it does take some time to complete.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011.

Other services provided include: meals, health and social services, speech testing, individualized teaching services for children with special needs, and parent involvement. Transportation services may be available.

Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah. For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

Spring Celebration set for Tuesday, March 15

Media Release
MCN Partnership Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation Partnership Board will host the annual Spring Celebration on Tuesday, March 15 at the Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee, Okla.

Registration for schools and individuals will be from 8-9 a.m., with activities lasting throughout the afternoon.

Activities will include basketball, a stompdance demonstration, Creek hymn singing and traditional Mvskoke food samplings.

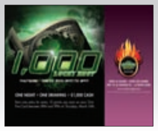
For more information, call Janice at (918) 732-7986 or Heather at (918) 549-2431 or for basketball team sign-ups call Neenah at (918) 732-7977 or Denise at (918) 732-7976.

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country: *Tasahcuce,* “Little Spring”

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wild Onion Dinners



B4 SPOTLIGHT

WIC Breast-feeding Spotlight: April and Gracelyn Vaughn

B6 PEOPLE

Obituary: Lyle Deere

B7 PEOPLE

Obituary: Lewis Harjo

Mvskoke Country: *Tasah-cuce,* "Little Spring"

by James Treat

In the spring Mvskoke people lightly turn to thoughts of love and wild onions, if not necessarily in that order.

Writing at the gloomy close of the nineteenth century, Mvskoke poet Alexander Posey was glad to hear "a lone bird sing" amid the "frosty winds" of winter's end, announcing "the warm smile of Spring." Posey was a lover of birds, and of the natural world more generally, his passion clearly evident in the nearly two hundred poems collected in Song of the Oktahutche. He was especially fond of birdsong along the river, "As one by one the cold days pass, / And Life and Love come on a-wing / In early sens'ous days of Spring."

Posey's poetry and prose amount to a literary geography of the Mvskoke landscape in Indian Territory. For example, Oktahutche (Oktah-hvcce, "Sand River") is the Mvskoke name for the North Canadian River, which meanders past Wetumka (Ue-Tumhkv, "Pounding Water") and Weleetka (Ue-Lētkv, "Running Water") on the way to its confluence with the Canadian River, a spot now submerged under Lake Eufaula (Yofalv, the name of a tribal town).

The poem "Spring in Tulwa Thlocco" celebrates this seasonal turn at Tvlwv Rakko, "Big Town," another Mvskoke place. Inspired by a winding river that flows "With murmurs falling into rhyme," the Mvskoke bard notices "Crocus, earliest flower of the year," and several kinds of flowering trees: plum, dogwood, redbud. The neighborhood pulses with color, "The fresher hue of grass and tree" in spring.

Delectable growth can be found underground as well: this has long been the time of year for harvesting wild onions in Mvskoke country, and for serving them at wild onion dinners.

Posey was an accomplished poet, but he was better known for the dialect humor of his "Fus Fixico" letters. One such dispatch published in the Eufaula Indian Journal on February 27, 1903—at the brink of spring—opened with this sad news: "Well, so that last cold spell was ruin Choela's wild onion crop on Shell Creek bad and make the chickens go out a business laying eggs. So looks like Choela was want a mix onion with eggs too soon . . ."

Four decades later, another Mvskoke correspondent reported weather more favorable for untamed vegetables. Thomas Moore's "Buddy Harjo" pieces sometimes combined este-cate (literally, "red man") English with poetic meter, as in this installment: "Pretty soon wild onion time is come again; / He grow whole lot all over every way, / An' I pick him any time I want it; / Eat wild onion three four times a day." The aging Mr. Harjo was somewhat less excited about the prospect of hitching mule to plow and working his field, a labor very few know these days.

Yes, Mvskoke people do love their wild onions, maybe so even more than they care for love itself. And food romantics of any stripe can do a lot worse than tafvmpuce, "wild onions."

The scientific name is Allium canadense L., commonly called "meadow garlic," a flowering perennial native to most of North America east of the Rockies—including parts of Canada, thus the specific designation canadense. There are hundreds of species in the Allium genus, which includes onions, shallots, leeks, scallions, chives, and garlic—allium is the Latin word for "garlic."

Mvskoke nomenclature is not inconsistent with Linnaean taxonomy, and it's more colorful to boot. The word tafvmpuce is based on the general term tafvmpe, "onion," modified by the diminutive suffix –uce, "little." Another important foodstuff is tafvmpe-vhake, "garlic" ("resembling onion"). The latest dictionary of the Mvskoke language also includes entries for 'pelof-tafvmpe, "wild onions from the woods" (literally, "swamp onion") and hvyakpo-tafvmpe, "wild onions from the prairie" (literally, "prairie onion"), which may correspond to other species of Allium. All of these names are apparently rooted in the word fvmpē, "stinky, bad-smelling," which also appears in 'to-fvmpe, "cherry tree" (literally, "stinky tree") and heles-fvmpe, "turpentine" (literally, "stinky medicine").

Tafvmpuce might be known for its smell, but those tiny bulbs hold a buried treasure of nutritional benefits. The pungent staple thrives in moist, sandy soil with some shade, the kind of conditions often found along rivers and streams. Digging, cleaning, and cooking this seasonal delicacy can be labor-intensive, but the groceries are free if you know where to shop.

I'm glad we have writers like Alexander Posey and Thomas Moore to remind us of the glories of tasahcē, the Mvskoke spring. And I'm glad we can still eat wild onions. Hompaks cē!

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments, as well as your suggestions. You can reach me by e-mail at treaty@illinois.edu

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"The History of Broken Arrow" features Creek history

Media Release
Broken Arrow Historical Society

BROKEN ARROW — The Broken Arrow Historical Society has produced a 90-minute video featuring both local history and "quite a bit of Muscogee-Creek history", beginning with the 1828 removal from Alabama of the Creek tribal town *Thlikachka*, or "Broken Arrow."

"For the 'origins' segment on the Creeks, we used some actors and went 'on site' to shoot footage. We were also fortunate to have a local television station (KOTV) shoot aerial views of sites. The result is, in educational terms, a 'you are there' experience which is a re-creation of the past that will delight the audience of any age while it teaches history."

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Rep. Steve Bruner (Tulsa District), who grew up in Broken Arrow, shares his reflections about the early Creek Constitution and system of government.

Other topics include the establishment of the Broken Arrow Indian Methodist Church and history of its founder, James McHenry who allegedly came to I.T., in chains as a prisoner of the federal government. His story is told by two of his great grandsons, Ronald and Charles (Chuck) McHenry.

"We started with that story and added 'layers' to it: photos, maps, sites, special appearances of local historians, and even actors." Ken Lowe, who resides in the original area where Thlikachka was re-established in 1828, appears in the video.

Perhaps the most illustrative story of everyday Creek life is that related by Mike Berryhill, Master Bow Maker of the Creek Nation. He tells how the people would gather arrow making reeds or river cane. They were "breaking arrows," and so the town was named for that activity.

Broken Arrow is a daughter town of Koweta, both Lower Creek towns from the Chattahoochee River. In all, there were 45 or more towns that moved intact from Ga., and Ala., to the new Indian Territory.

White Church, founded by the Presbyterians, was established at the close of the Civil War and its cemetery is one of the oldest in the Broken Arrow. Thomas Perryman was one of its early pastors before it became a mission school. It's building, rebuilt in the 1870s, is still in use.

Other prominent Creeks documented in the film include Sampson Chisholm, who drove cattle from Chisholm, Texas to South Coffeyville following the Civil War, and Dan Childers, operator of a ferry across the Arkansas River.

"This video fills in gaps in information for many people because it explains how we came to be here, both the Creek town and the incorporated city of Broken Arrow. You can get a sense of daily life in the territory. Indian Territory has a history that is not replicated anywhere else in the United States," Gerber was quick to add.

"The History of Broken Arrow" is being shared with the public in a special premiere at the Broken Arrow Schools PAC on Saturday, February 26. Tickets are available at the PAC box office and online at www.thepacba.com. The price is $15 for general admission seating. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., for a 7 p.m., program.

Visit www.bahistoricalsociety.com or call (918) 258-2616 for details.

The History of Broken Arrow

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Little Cussetah Wild Onion Dinner

SCHULTER — The Little Cussetah United Methodist Church will host a Wild Onion Dinner on Saturday, April 2, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Meals are $8 a plate.

For more information, contact Karen King at (918) 752-8230 or Nelson Harjo (918) 650-5206.

Concharty Wild Onion Dinner

OKMULGEE —The Concharty United Methodist Church will host a Wild Onion Dinner Saturday, March 26, 2011 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Adults and take-out orders will be $8 and children 12 and under will be $5.

The church is located at 19040 Garfield Road, in Okmulgee (4 Miles north of Interstate Highway 16 on Bixby Road and one mile east on Garfield Road).

For more information, call (918) 366-8450 or send e-mail to: info@kvncate.com

Big Cussetah Wild Onion Dinner

MORRIS — Big Cussetah United Methodist Church is hosting an all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner Saturday, March 19 from 11a.m. - 3 p.m.

Prices are $8 for adults, $5 for children 10 years and under and $8 for all carry outs.

The church is located 3 1/2 miles south on Prairie Bell Road from New Morris Hwy.

For more information contact Miley Hargis at (918) 342-3637.

Broken Arrow Wild Onion Dinner

BROKEN ARROW — Broken Arrow United Methodist Church is hosting a Wild Onion Dinner Saturday, March 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The church is located at 20854 E. 141st St., in Broken Arrow. Dinners are $8 and include onions, beans, corn, meat, frybread, beverages and assorted desserts.

For more information contact Irene McHenry.

Haikey Chapel Wild Onion Dinner

TULSA — Haikey Chapel UMC will be having their Wild Onion Dinner March 19, 2011.

Dinner will be served from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Adults are $7.50 and children's plates are $3.50.

The church is located at 8503 E 101st St., in Tulsa.

For more information, contact Pastor Royce Wittman at (918) 284-7003.

All Tribes Community Church Wild Onion Dinner

TULSA — The All Tribes Community Church will host their annual Wild Onion Dinner on Saturday, March 12, from noon-4 p.m., at the Akdar Shrine Headquarters located at 2808 S. Sheridan Rd. in Tulsa (near 31st St., and Sheridan Rd.).

Adults are $8 per plate and children's plates are $4 (eight years and younger). Arts and crafts booths will be available.

For more information, contact Sue Tanquoot at (918) 237-5888, Tom Moore at (918) 639-3903 or Archie Mason at (918) 810-4291.

Springfield Wild Onion Dinner

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church will host their annual Wild Onion Dinner, on-site Saturday, April 2 beginning at 11 a.m.

Summer Youth deadline set for April 1, 2011

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Youth Employment Program is now accepting applications for youth ages 16-21. All applicants must be a member of a federally recognized tribe and live within the Creek Nation boundaries.

The deadline to submit all paperwork is April 1, 2011. No faxed applications will be accepted.

To apply or for more information, call: (918) 732-7775, (918) 732-7776 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7775 or 7776.

Tulsa Powwow 2011

TULSA — The 2011 Tulsa Powwow will be held at the Spirit Bank Event Center, located at 105th and S. Memorial, July 29-31. Booths are a 10 X 10 space and cost $75.00 for the weekend.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2011 Tulsa Powwow Princess until March 19, 2011. Applicants must be female, a member of a federally-recognized tribe between the ages of 15-21 with a GPA of 2.5 or more. Other requirements must also be met to be eligible and are available for review on the application.

For artist, arts and craft information, please contact Robert Anquoe at (918) 671-8366 or www.tulsapowwow.org. Applications for princess may be mailed to: 2966 W. 66th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132, Faxed: (918) 445-4947 or e-mailed: cherrahridge@gmail.com

Bruner Family Benefit Food Sale

HOLDENVILLE — A benefit breakfast sale will be held Saturday, April 2, 2011 at the Holdenville Indian Community Center from 8 a.m.-11a.m. Breakfasts will be $5 per plate and all proceeds will benefit the 30th annual Bruner Family Reunion.

For more information, please contact Abby Larney at (405) 379-8187 or Joyce at (580) 320-5339.

New Covenant Tabernacle Gospel Singing

HENRYETTA — A gospel singing fund raiser for the New Covenant Tabernacle Church will be held on Saturday, April 2, from 7 p.m.-12 a.m., will be held on-site at 18725 Hwy. 266 in Henryetta near Grayson.

For more information, call (918) 291-2044.

Springfield annual Memorial Gospel Singing

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church will host their annual Memorial Gospel Singing on May 29 beginning at 7 p.m.

Rev. David Little will be the emcee and concessions will be available.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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WIC Breast-feeding Spotlight: April and Gracelyn Vaughn

Photo Courtesy/*MCN WIC*

Pictured above are April and Gracelyn Vaughn. Mother and daughter are happy with the family's choice to breast-feed.

Media Release
MCN WIC Program

OKMULGEE — April Vaughn is a very busy mom. She works, takes care of her husband and four children and some might wonder how in the world she has time to breast-feed or even why she chose to breast-feed all her children.

Alicia Ward, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program wanted to know the answers to those questions as well so that April's story might inspire other busy moms to breast-feed.

Vaughn always knew she wanted to breast-feed. Her mother and grandmother breast-fed and even as a little girl playing with dolls, she knew she would someday breast-feed her own children.

In Vaughn's family, breast-feeding is the normal way to feed babies and she would never consider anything else.

"Besides," Vaughn says, "it's the best thing for my baby; it's easy and less expensive."

Vaughn went on to say that breast-feeding involves the whole family and that family involvement is how moms overcome difficulties. Other family members can pitch in and help when mom needs quiet time to rest and feed baby.

The first month can be the toughest, as new moms have to deal with postpartum emotions but each week gets easier.

When asked about breast-feeding in public, Vaughn stated that gets easier with experience as well.

"With the first baby I was kind of shy about it. To me, it was no big deal, but you have to learn how to deal with people. You have to accept that other people may not be as accepting about breast-feeding in public. Breast-feeding is normal, natural and good for the baby. I will always do what is good for my baby," Vaughn said.

So what is Vaughn's advice for pregnant and breast-feeding women?

"First, make sure you have a bra that fits correctly to help with support to avoid discomfort. Second, understand why you decided to breast-feed in the first place and third, don't get discouraged because it is a learning process," Vaughn said.

For more information on breast-feeding, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program at (918) 758-2722

First Peoples Fund honors Tiger

• Artist receives Jennifer Easton Community Spirit Award

Media Release
First Peoples Fund

RAPID CITY, S.D., — Cherokee painter Dana Tiger of Muskogee is one of six Native American artists being recognized by First Peoples Fund this year. Today the Fund announced artists from six states who will receive a prestigious 2011 Jennifer Easton Community Spirit Award fellowship. Each year, the national organization honors and celebrates exceptional American Indian artists who embody Collective Spirit® — "that which manifests self-awareness and a sense of responsibility to sustain the cultural fabric of a community". Each honoree is recognized with a $5,000 no-strings-attached fellowship.

According to Pamela Iron, Executive Director, National Indian Women's Health Resource Center, Inc., "Dana is a valuable asset to both the Cherokee and the Muscogee Creek communities. She selflessly donates her time as well as her art to help her community."

Photo Courtesy/*OSU Communications Dept.*

Pictured above is Muscogee (Creek) artist Dana Tiger who was recently named a 2011 Jennifer Easton Community Spirit Fellow.

Dana Tiger is a very gifted artist who mentors young Native Americans by exposing them to their native culture. She is the founder of the Legacy Cultural Learning Community in Tahlequah, OK, an organization assisting youth in exploring their talents through workshops and gatherings where native craftsman teach youth skills such as pottery, basketry and bow making. Dana says, "I paint the strong heart of women who care for their families and who have the courage to speak up for the land they live on. I see them and paint that determination." Her future plans are to build a "Creative Spirit House" in Park Hill, OK. It will be used for art performance, teaching and student exhibit space to display youth art by students at Bacone College as well as youth from the Muscogee Indian Community and Sequoyah School.

First Peoples Fund's President, Lori Pourier (Oglala Lakota) explains that Community Spirit Award honorees are chosen not only for artistic excellence but for exemplifying indigenous values of generosity, wisdom, respect, integrity, strength, fortitude and humility. "Each artist exemplifies Collective Spirit® which moves each one of us to stand up and make a difference, to pass on the ancestral knowledge, or simply extend a hand of generosity", she said.

Honorees were nominated for the national award by members of their own tribes and were selected by an independent panel of American Indian cultural leaders. This year's panel of reviewers included: David Cournoyer (Oglala Lakota) Board of Directors for First Peoples Fund;

Richard Zane Smith (Wyandot) 2010 Community Spirit Award honoree; Susana Geliga (Lakota/Taino); and Tina Kuckkahn, (Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewas) of the Longhouse Education and Cultural Center.

Over the past 12 years, First Peoples Fund has recognized a total of 53 Community Spirit Award honorees representing 42 tribal nations.

Contempt

Continued from A1

Those cited for contempt included MCN National Council Speaker Roger Barnett, Second Speaker Sam Alexander and Rep. Bill Fife as well as staff attorneys Yonne Tiger and Roger Wiley. Additional judgments fined each in the amount of $2,500. This series of court filings stemmed from a civil court filing initiated by the executive branch with the objective of passing the FY2011 budget.

Later that same day, Feb. 25, 2011, the attorney representing Barnett, Alexander, Fife, Tiger and Wiley, also filed an Application for Writ of Habeas Corpus in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma.

In the MCN Supreme Court ruling, the authority of the National Council was outlined, "As set forth in this Court's precedent, the general authority to bring suit is not one of the National Council's powers. National Council does not have standing to proceed as a Petitioner, and its requested relief is dismissed outright."

Validity of the district court and of Judge Moore serving in capacity as the district court judge was questioned openly in court in past weeks. Earlier Supreme Court decisions to hold over Judge Moore were referenced and maintained the March 1, 2011 opinion.

"Although the Principal Chief had nominated the sitting District Court Judge for a new term, the National Council had voted against confirming his nomination. Additionally the National Council had voted against confirming two other candidates nominated by the Principal Chief."

With no new nominations and no confirmations, the Supreme Court issued an Administrative Order affirming the current district court judge's continued temporary service pending a replacement.

The current Supreme Court ruling states, "the Administrative Order remains unchanged." The opinion further explained, "a legislatively-created restriction on a necessary judicial officer's terms of office has no effect on the judiciary in the face of an imminent void in judicial services."

Supreme Court rulings stated, "Furthermore, it must be noted that at no point was the sitting judge ever removed. He had not been reconfirmed for office by the National Council, despite his re-nomination."

The document contained more grounds that support the Supreme Court's decision, such as, "The current stalemate between the Principal Chief and the National Council in appointing and approving a new District Court Judge necessitated the Chief Justice to take action to ensure the District Court Judge position was not left vacant for the foreseeable future, leaving the District Court Judge position vacant would have left this Nation without a functioning constitutional branch of government."

The opinion issued was, "in the interest of minimizing future disputes within the nation," and explained, "The National Council cannot continually substitute their will by passing new legislation to overturn the Court's authority to operate unobstructed. Any legislative attempt to do so is beyond the powers of the Legislative Branch."

Concluding statements of the opinion were, "The Judiciary will not be held hostage by political disputes, nor will it be intimidated by legislative attempts to manage its internal affairs."

On Feb. 26, attorney for the National Council, John A.L. Campbell addressed those in attendance at the National Council meeting and stated, " I do not intend to appear before Patrick Moore any more; I don't view him as a judge, I don't see his court as a real courtroom."

In a March 2, press release, the National Council said, "The National Council has attempted all responsible measures to investigate the misuse of funds to ensure financial responsibility to the Nation."

The release outlined attempts to seek guidance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services, Department of the Interior, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Office and Deputy Assistant of Indian Affairs Office. It further expressed concerns with IGRA violations but stated, "The BIA refused to step in and investigate the situation."

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OBITUARIES

LYLE DEERE

MUSKOGEE — Lyle Deere was born Sept. 19, 1958 to the Rev. Kenneth and Joann (Chalakee) Deere in Claremore. He departed this life on Sunday, Jan. 30, 2011.

Lyle was employed as the Transportation Planner for the Osage Nation in Pawhuska, Okla. He previously worked for the Cherokee Nation and also dedicated 24 years with to the U.S. Department of the Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Lyle was a 1976 graduate of Muskogee High School where he excelled in football, named Honorable Mention All State; his leadership potential was also recognized as he was chosen to participate in Boys State.

At age 17, he enlisted and became a brother in the United States Marine Corps.

Lyle was a full-blood Muscogee (Creek) citizen and, while he was proud of his heritage and tribal culture, he respected all other tribes, their culture and traditions. He was an outspoken advocate for the people.

He was a member of the Salt Creek United Methodist Church in Holdenville, Okla,; the Creek Indian Community and the Native American Marine Corps Veterans Association.

He served as a Commissioner to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Constitutional Convention in 2009, and had recently been re-elected as Vice-President of the Intertribal Transportation Association (ITA), a National tribal organization which served as an advocate for tribal transportation needs and funding.

Lyle was an avid sports fan, but particularly enjoyed football and basketball. He loved OU football and also supported the Muscogee Indian Nations Football League; his love of basketball called him to coach many high school basketball players in the annual Madness in March Native American Basketball Tournament. He was also honored by the Sequoyah High School Alumni Association for his tireless support to the athletic programs and players of Sequoyah High School.

He was preceded in death by his parents Rev. Kenneth and Joann F. Deere, his paternal grandparents, Melissa (Long) and Eli Roy Deer, and his maternal grandparents, John and Fannie (Berryhill) Chalakee.

He is survived by his wife Joyce C. Deere of the home; daughters Taryn Allen of Muskogee, and Maria Todd and husband Richard Todd of Oklahoma City, sons: Mark Allen and wife Cheron of Wagoner, and Acee Allen, Muskogee; five grandchildren: Robert Allen, Bailee Allen, Blayne Allen, Sarah Allen, and Joseph Shoemake, and one expected in April; his sister, Lisa Deere, of Muskogee, nephews: Tenetke Deer, Kosa Deere, Paskova Deere, and niece, Sukey Deere; and two great nephews, Aiden Ray Deere of Muskogee, and Tvco Kvlece Willie-Deere, of Wadsworth, Nevada.

Lyle was a beloved husband, father, and friend whose loss is felt by many people throughout the country. A wake service for Lyle was held with Rev. Jerry Byrd officiating. The funeral service took place at St. Paul United Methodist Church with Rev. Mike Harjo and Rev. Paul Fixico officiating.

Interment followed at Vernon Cemetery in Coweta with Greg Reece, Joel Don Reece, David (Chebon) Long, III, Wotko Long, Woxie Wacoche, and Wilmon Wilson serving as pallbearers. Ushers were Merle Berryhill, Kenny Allen, and Junior McGeely.

ANNE MURPHY

HENRYETTA — Anne Marie Murphy passed away on Friday, Feb. 11, 2011. She was born to Willie B. "Jack" and Karen Murphy in San Jose, California on Sept. 8, 1981.

She graduated from Henryetta High School in 2000 and received her Associates degree from Oklahoma State University in 2005. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She was planning to pursue a Bachelor's degree in computer forensics. She was employed part time by Creek Nation and was to begin a full-time position when she became ill.

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandmother, Wanda Yaugher. She is survived by her parents, two children, Thomas and Anjaila "AJ" Poole and their father Jay and their grandparents, Linda and David Retherford of Henryetta, grandmother Mollie Washington of Clinton, OK., four brothers, Willie Murphy and Melvin Murphy of Sacramento, Ca., John Baker and wife Heather of Eau Clair. Wis., and David Baker (currently deployed to Korea with the Navy) and wife Carey of Chesapeake, Va., four sisters, Pat Thomas of Sacramento, Erma McBride and husband Jerry of Sacramento, Rhonda Smith of Sacramento and Cheryl Jones of Atlanta, Ga., a host of aunts, uncle, cousins, nephews and nieces. Anne was a member of the Deer Clan.

Anne enjoyed talking on her cell phone, camping, and hanging out with her many friends. She was a devoted and loving mother.

A celebration of life memorial service was held Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011 at the New Beginnings Baptist Church of Henryetta with Pastor Walter Taylor, Jr., officiating.

BRIAN GRAHAM

PRYOR — Brian Christopher Graham, a resident of Pryor and formerly of Chandler, died Thursday, Jan. 20, 2011 in Pryor at the age of 31. Graham was born Jan. 14, 1980 in Tulsa.

He graduated from Chandler High School and worked at the Hard Rock Casino for four years. He loved the time he spent with his kids and friends, and enjoyed computers and using his highly artistic talents.

CONTINUED ON B7

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Chris was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Pansy Fern Grayson Fern Grayson and Marshall Grayson and his paternal grandfather, John Graham.

He is survived by his mother and step-father, Denise and John Hummel of Tulsa, a daughter, Adiah Merideth-Lee Graham, companion, Kristin Sanchez, and step children, Julian and Grace, all of Pryor, father, Carter Joe Graham of Bartlesville, paternal grandmother, Starr Graham of Bartlesville, aunts and uncles, Jona and Don Rade of Broken Arrow and Videlle and Jim Ingram of Jenks, and numerous cousins.

Chris was proud of his Creek heritage and was known to many as "nokose." His Tribal Town was Koweta.

BERTHA MAE TAYLOR

SCHULTER — Bertha Mae Taylor went home to be with the Lord at the age of 75 on her birthday Jan. 26, 2011. She was born at home in Schulter to Alice and Hully Taylor on Jan. 26, 1936.

Bertha attended grammar school at Schulter School and completed her high school education at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan. After high school she received her R.N. certification from St. Johns school of Nursing in Tulsa. She received her Associates of Arts degree from Cerritos College in Cerritos, Calif., and later her Bachelor's Degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla.

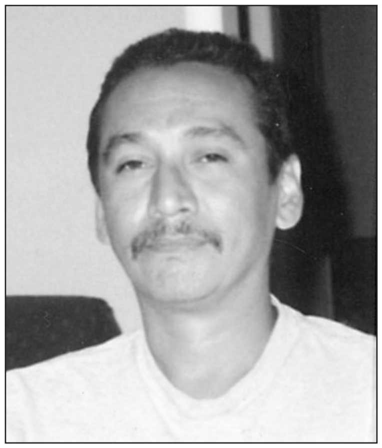
Bertha lived many years in Calif., where she worked at various hospitals as a registered nurse. In the early 70s, she established the medical health program at the elders care facility on the Maricopa reservation in Ariz.

She was an active member of the First American Indian Church in Los Angeles. She retired from the Los Angeles County and returned to her childhood home in Schulter.

Bertha remained single her entire life devoting her time to career, relatives, church and her hobbies. She was an accomplished Muscogee basket maker and seamstress. She made dolls out of corn husks and sewed Muscogee vests and dresses. She was a member of the Okmulgee Crocheting Club and taught classes for the Okmulgee Indian Community summer youth program during the summer. She did volunteer work for the Creek Museum and won numerous awards for skills. She was a member of the Indian Cemetery Preservation Committee and worked to keep the water in her neighboring Burgess Creek free from city contamination. She was also a contestant in the 2007 Muscogee (Creek) Elders Pageant.

She is preceded in her death by her parents, Alice and Hully and her younger brother Marvin. She is survived by brothers Nelson Taylor (Inez) of Los Angeles and Ken Taylor (Luanna) of Anaheim, California. Sisters Buna Taylor of Lawrence Kansas, Irene Aguilar of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Quannah Suwanvittaya (Chaun) of Costa Mesa, Calif., and numerous nieces and nephews.

ROBERT ALEXANDER



TULSA — Robert Alexander, 44, Tulsa, entered into rest on Dec. 25, 2010. Robert was born Sept. 16, 1966 in Houston, Texas to Jack Alexander and the late Mary (Felix) Alexander and he was of Yuchi and Muscogee (Creek) descent.

He is the grandson of the late James (Muskogee) Felix and Salo (Fulsom) Felix, Kellyville. Robert attended Kellyville Elementary and Jr. High and Santa Fe High School in Santa Fe, N.M., where he obtained a brown belt in karate. Robert was a contract house painter at the time of his death. Robert was much loved and will be missed by his family and his family of friends.

He is survived by his father, Jack Alexander, Tulsa, brothers; Jimmy Alexander, Kellyville, Willie Alexander, Cushing, and sister Sunshine (King) Hunter, Eufaula; nephews; Sky King, Eufaula, Jerry T. Alexander, Tulsa, James M. (Alexander) Long, Sapulpa, Willie Alexander, Jr., Tulsa, and Otis Lee White, Bristow; nieces; Jacquetta (Alexander- Long) Berry, Sapulpa, Gabrielle and Hayden Coulter, Idaho and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Honorary Pallbearers are Chris Anderson, Skiatook, Levi Watashe, Kellyville, Chuck Key, Robert Nieves, Danny Tollison, and Sonny Harjo, all of Tulsa.

A Memorial Service was held Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2011, at 11 a.m., at the Tulsa Indian United Methodist Church in Tulsa with Rev. Judy Aaron officiating.

LEWIS HARJO

HANNA — Lewis Harjo, a resident of Hanna, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011 at the age of 47. He was born July 2, 1963 to Jack and Nancy (Gouge) Harjo in Hanna, Okla.

Survivors include his sisters and brothers, Janetta Harjo of Shawnee, Alex Harjo of Hanna, Helen Erwin of Tulsa, Bernice Proctor of Shawnee and Leroy Harjo of Henryetta and numerous other relatives.

Services were held at 2 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 26, 2001 at the Hanna Indian Community Center with Jacob Jackson officiating.

Friends may send their condolences to www.shurdenjackson.com

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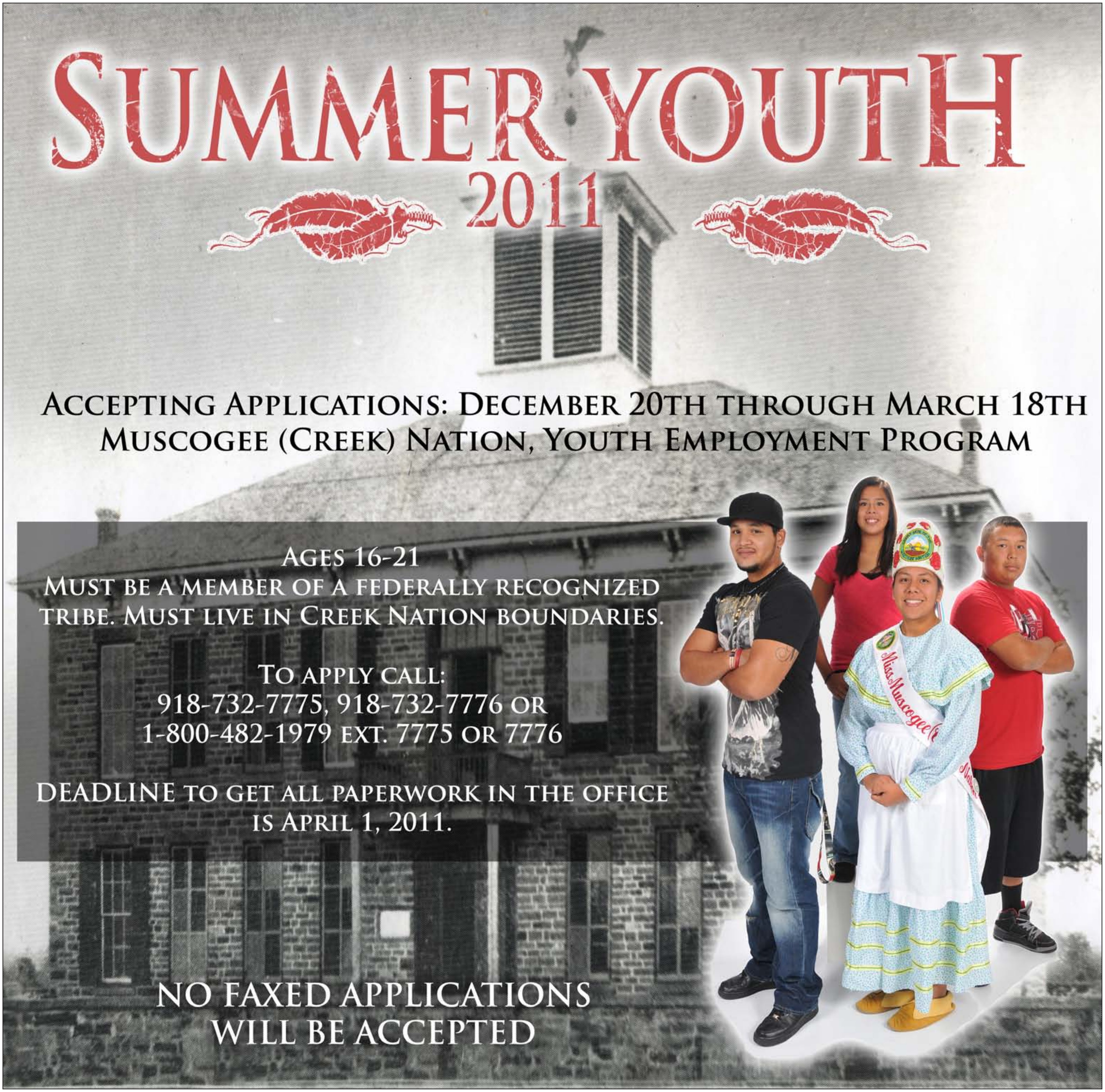

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NEWS

March 15, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 5

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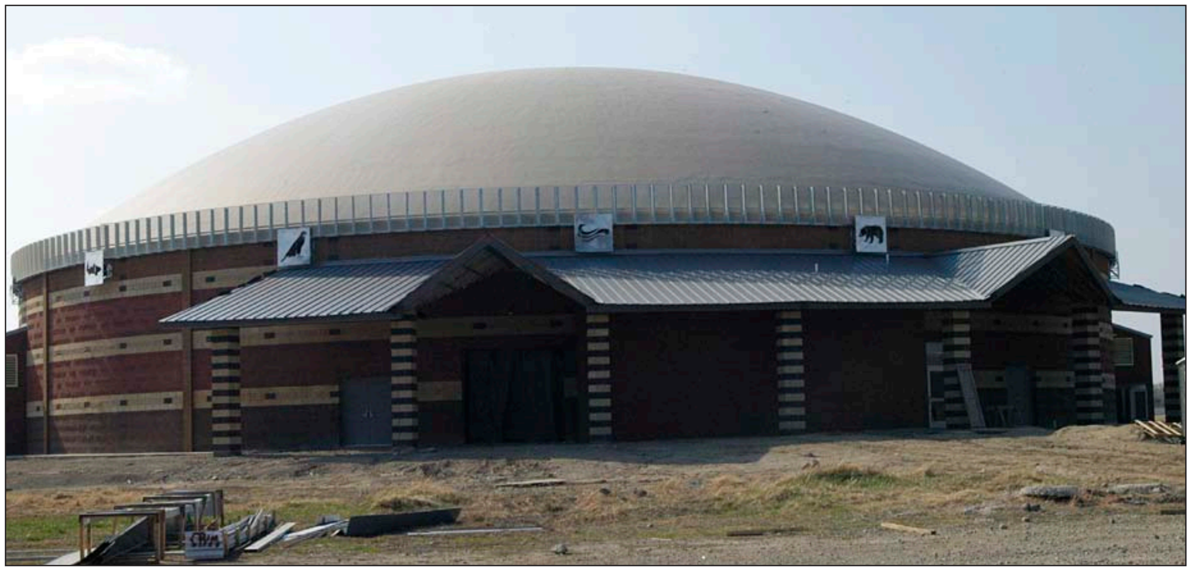
Omniplex to add dome

• Ribbon-cutting set for April 2011



MNN/*Rachel Mayberry*

Pictured above is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Multi-purpose Building located on the Claude Cox Omniplex. A ribbon-cutting is scheduled for April 2011. The building will host events, concerts and special-occasion meetings for members of the tribe and non-Creek citizens.

Rachel Mayberry
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — According to Tribal Construction Manager Solomon Morgan, the projected finish date for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Multi-purpose Building is April 2011.

Morgan said the building process began in Dec. 2010 and has taken 14 months, to date.

According to the Indian Community Block Grant, Public Facilities Project, Multi-purpose Building Project Narrative (ICDBG '05): Common experiences build and strengthen the community. Without those common experiences, (people actually meeting with, and communicating with each other, and the ability to build on those experiences) the community is simply reduced to a group of citizens living next to each other."

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation hopes to strengthen the community by adding a structure, which will encourage health, culture and overall growth of the tribe.

SEE DOME - B5

MCN burial assistance update

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — NCA 11-037 was signed by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis on Monday, March 7, 2011. This new law provided a $150,000 appropriation for the burial assistance program.

Social Services is currently accepting applications for tribal burial assistance. If a citizen has been denied by Social Services in the past 30 days due to the lack of funding, they should call to discuss their application. Upon hearing from the citizen, Social Services will reopen the application and work with the client to complete the process.

Social Services is still out of BIA funding for burial assistance.

For more information, contact MCN Social Services at (918) 549-2445.

MCN Skate Zone grand opening set for March 26

Media Release
MCN Community Research

EUFAULA — Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens are invited to attend the Grand Opening of the MCN Skate Zone, Roller Skating Rink located at 800 Birkes Rd., in Eufaula on Saturday, March 26 from 2-5 p.m.

Festivities will kick-off with an Opening Ceremony featuring a guest from MCN Administration. Free soda, popcorn and skating will be available to all Creek citizens who present their tribal enrollment card.

Door prizes will also be given away throughout the afternoon. Communities are asked to provide an accurate count of attendees in order to ensure there are refreshments for all in attendance by Wednesday, March 23.

The MCN Skate Zone will then open at 7 p.m. to the public.

Please RSVP for this occasion by calling Billie at (918) 732-7960 or Pat Frank at (918) 732-7968.

A2 EXECUTIVE

Letters to the Editor

A3 LEGAL

Letter from the Editor

A4 LEGAL

MCN Festival set for June 23-26

A5 VETERANS

MCN Lighthorseman honored

A7 CAPITOL NEWS

MCN Service Awards 2011

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Circulation - Wilma Murphy
Intern Reporter - Rachel Mayberry

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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

NAJA

Second Speaker speaks out

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

OKMULGEE — Second Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council Sam Alexander recently gave the Muscogee Nation News a candid interview about his tenure as a National Council Representative, the District Court hearings between the National Council and the Office of the Principal Chief, the term of Judge Patrick Moore, tribal sovereignty and what the administrative powers can do in the midst of tribal controversy.

Alexander's service to the tribe has included tax commissioner, and he is now serving his third term as National Council representative.

MNN: When you campaigned to represent the Tulsa District and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, what were the issues you wanted to take care of immediately?

Alexander: "When I first sought to represent the Tulsa District, my intent was to utilize my business and financial background. Because of gaming (slots) revenues, tribal business is now a complex big business. My intent was to lend this expertise to negotiating with those (white people) seeking to do tribal business. Making sure we got a fair deal, if you will."

MNN: When you were elected to serve (this time), and sworn in at your first official National Council meeting. You were nominated to serve as second speaker and immediately elected to serve this office, how did that make you feel in just your first meeting?

Alexander: "Gerald, it was actually starting my third term on the Council before becoming the second speaker. Of course, it is a gigantic honor to be recognized by my peers. I felt like I paid my dues listening and learning the first two terms. However, by my third term, it was time to raise the bar a little."

MNN: Has there been a strategy, or specific philosophy that you have always tried to maintain as a public figure?

SEE SPEAKER - A8

Letters to the Editor

Citizen requests initiation of impeachment by NC

HENRYETTA — Honorable Council Members:

My name is Edward F. Mouss II. I am of the Raccoon Clan and the Tvkvpvtce Tribal Town. I reside within the political boundaries of the Muscogee Nation in Okmulgee District. As you should know, I filed the fourth petition to convene a court of impeachment for Principal Chief A.D. Ellis on Jan. 28, 2011. Each allegation since the first petition has validity.

Although no one petition includes every instance of Mr. Ellis' impropriety, collectively, the petitions do paint a disturbing picture that shows many affirmations and symptoms of our government's failing political system. The reason I am writing this letter is to request that the National Council exercise their authority to initiate impeachment proceedings and remove any tribal official that is violating the law.

Impeachment is one internal tribal remedy that has yet to be exercised or even explored.

It is my belief that the National Council has the authority to unilaterally initiate impeachment proceedings without a citizen's petition. In my opinion, a major problem lies with the kind of advice the National Council seeks from their attorneys. The Council seeks legal advice about what actions they can take through courts setup according to English or American Law, instead of recognizing what they can do politically and legally according to Muscogee Law.

At this point, the Council is steadily becoming part of the bigger problem and are contributing to the failure of our government's political system. Not to mention these misguided and futile legal efforts in court are a huge waste of tribal resources.

The Council doesn't have much legal standing in court simply because the National Council makes the laws and because they can unilaterally impeach tribal officials if deemed necessary. In other words, if a tribal official is committing unlawful acts, then that official should be impeached and removed rather than taken into court. Title 31 §1-105(A) 2. specifically states how the National Council "initiates" impeachment proceedings and the previous section (Title 31 § 1-105(A) 1.) details how a citizen can begin impeachment proceedings. The Declaration of policy (Title 31 § I-1D2(C)1.) states that "Impeachment and conviction of officers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is an exclusive function of the National Council." Unlike any other governmental branch, when the National Council fails to act it destroys the integrity of the entire political system and its ability to govern.

Thank you for your consideration,
— Edward Mouss, II

Citizen voices concern with representation

OKEMAH — From our Muscogee (Creek) Constitution, it is stated that the National Council Representatives are elected:

"To promote the public health and safety, education and welfare that may contribute to social, physical well-being and economic advancement of citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

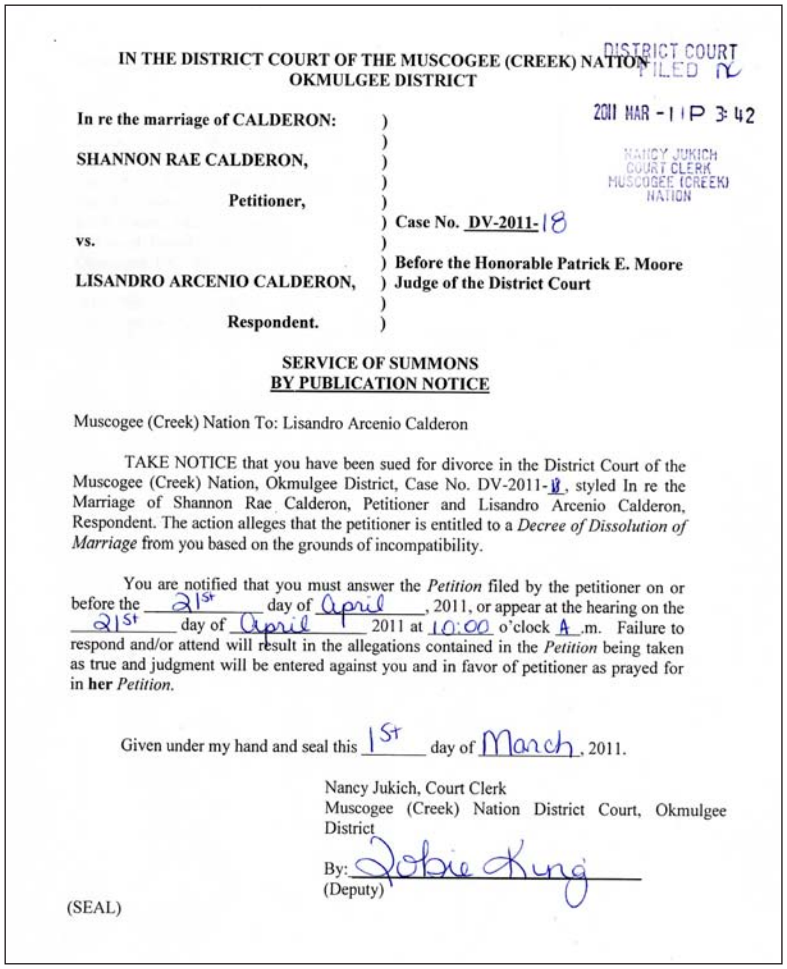
It is my understanding and belief that in order to help accomplish this effort, each Council Member should communicate with individual citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to help promote and advocate for the well-being of Creek citizens.

I want to take this opportunity to tell you that this is not happening in the Okfuskee District.

On numerous occasions, I have made efforts to communicate with my elected Council representatives to no avail. I have left phone messages and have not received a return phone call. On one occasion, I was notified that the Representative was out golfing, and would return my call. I feel such actions only solidify the image that Council representatives only care about their own social, physical well-being and economic advancement.

As a Creek citizen, I find it hard to accept such actions. Although the Okfuskee Council representatives are being compensated for their service, they are not earning this compensation. I just want to close by saying that I, for one, do not appreciate how the Okfuskee County Representatives have communicated with me and hope this message is being heard loud and clear.

Hanson Hicks



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 MAR -1 P 3:42
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the marriage of CALDERON:)
)
SHANNON RAE CALDERON,)
)
Petitioner,)
) **Case No. DV-2011-**18
vs.)
) **Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore**
LISANDRO ARCENIO CALDERON,) **Judge of the District Court**
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Lisandro Arcenio Calderon

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2011-18, styled In re the Marriage of Shannon Rae Calderon, Petitioner and Lisandro Arcenio Calderon, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

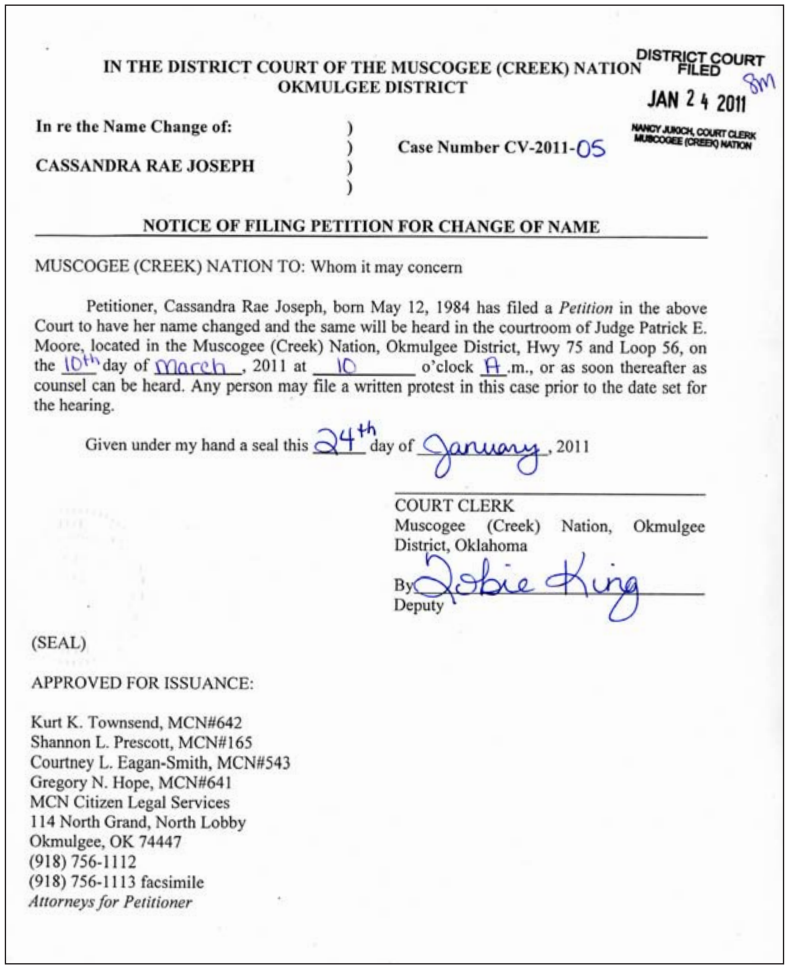
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 21st day of April, 2011, or appear at the hearing on the 21st day of April 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in **her** *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 1st day of March, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
JAN 24 2011
NANCY JUKICH, COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the Name Change of:)
) **Case Number CV-2011-**05
CASSANDRA RAE JOSEPH)
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Petitioner, Cassandra Rae Joseph, born May 12, 1984 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Hwy 75 and Loop 56, on the 10th day of March, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 24th day of January, 2011

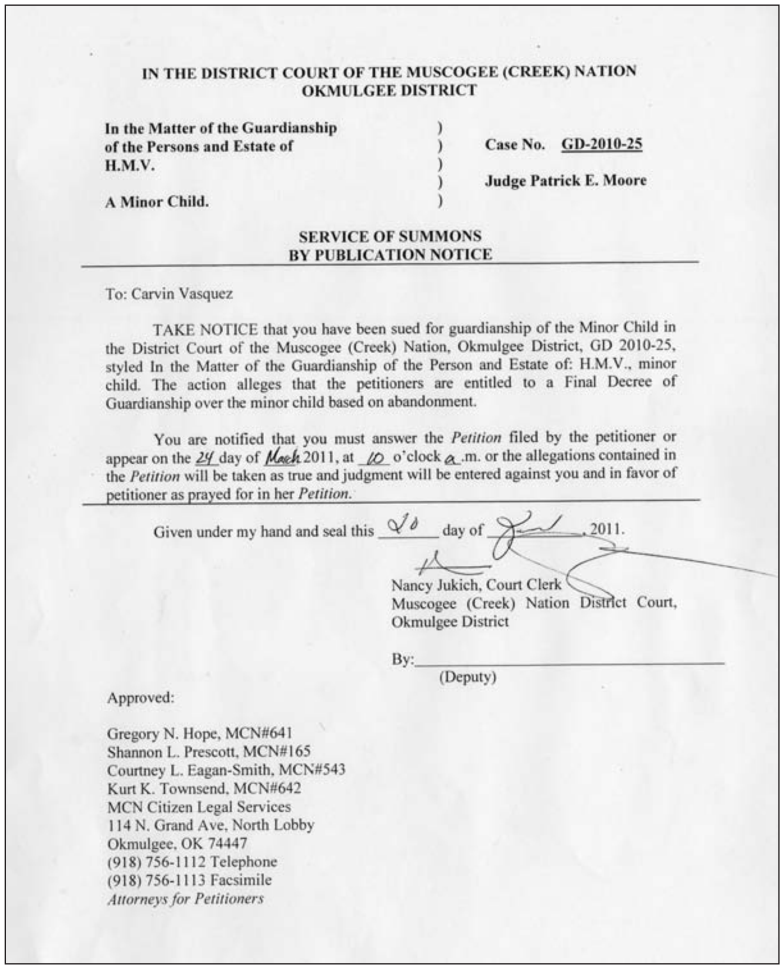
COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma

By Jobie King
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estate of) **Case No.** **GD-2010-25**
H.M.V.)
) **Judge Patrick E. Moore**
A Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Carvin Vasquez

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2010-25, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: H.M.V., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 24 day of Mach 2011, at 10 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

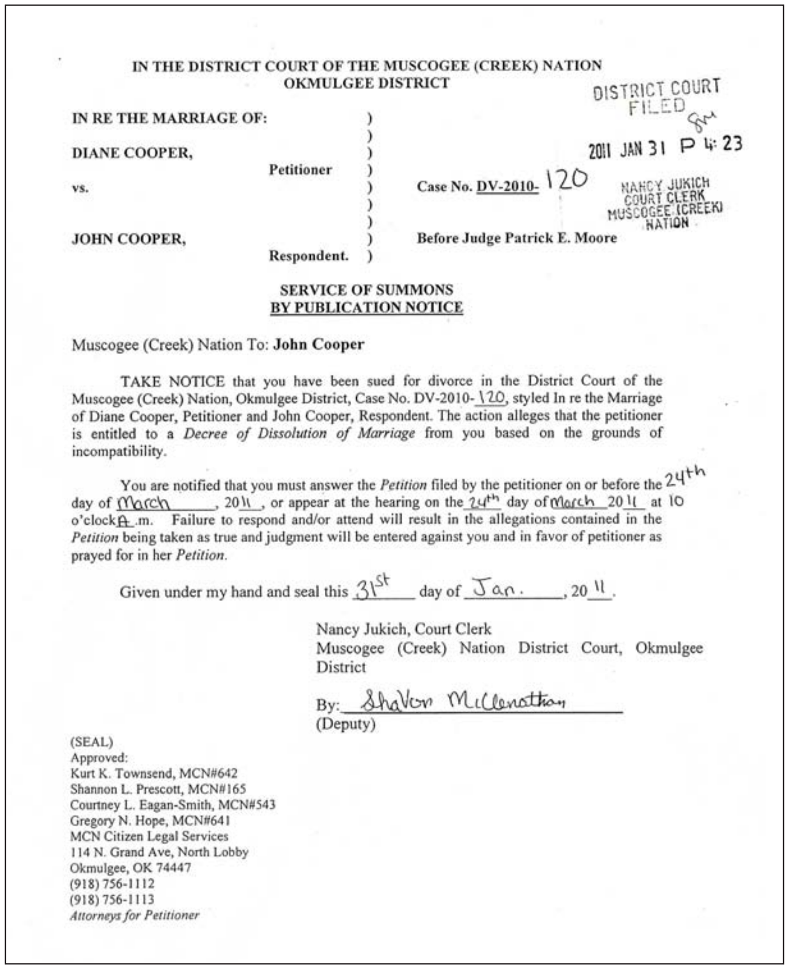
Given under my hand and seal this 20 day of [illegible], 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By:
(Deputy)

Approved:

Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioners



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 JAN 31 P 4:23
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:)
)
DIANE COOPER,)
Petitioner)
vs.) **Case No. DV-2010-** 120
)
)
JOHN COOPER,) **Before Judge Patrick E. Moore**
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: **John Cooper**

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2010-120, styled In re the Marriage of Diane Cooper, Petitioner and John Cooper, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 24th day of March, 2011, or appear at the hearing on the 24th day of March 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 31st day of Jan., 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: ShaVon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko!

As the first day of spring approaches March 20, I have noticed something happening in this part of Indian Country that oddly inspired me.

Fire. It can be dangerous, destructive and deadly. This is something we're taught from the time we're old enough to crawl. The natural phenomenon has impacted the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in the last couple of weeks with more than 13 fires raging across the state last week on a single day.

We traveled to the Duck Creek area to get a few photos of the destruction where the blackened earth almost reached the Creek Nation Casino however, it was headed off by area volunteer fire departments as well as our own Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Department. I was glad to know we were in good hands!

I say all of this to tell you about what I noticed this week as I was driving to and from work. Where the fires had blown across the dry fields, leaving scorched remains of vegetation now are new sprouts of fresh, spring grass.

I find it extremely comforting to know that even if seem burned on the surface, if there are strong roots, you can always bounce back better than ever.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

MCN Festival set for June 23-26

Muscogee Nation
37th annual
Festival 2011
Celebrate Life!

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

Sign-ups for both slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball are now available on-line and through the Tourism & Recreation Office.

Commemorative Festival 2011 mugs in four designs are available for purchase for $8 each as well as raffle tickets to win a 2011 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200 Low. Tickets for the motorcycle are available for $5 each or five for $20. The drawing is open to everyone and winner will be announced and awarded on Saturday, June 25, 2011 after 6 p.m. Participants need not be present to win.

Sponsorships are still available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from Jan. 1, 2011 through Feb. 28, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Addilyn Harris	Petition
A.D. Ellis v. MCN National Council	Petition
Krystal Berryhill	Petition
William Rideout v. MCN Office of Public Gaming	Petition
Dale Hughes v. Casey Wain	Petition
Q.C. Financial Services v. Kenna Smith	Small Claims
Southcrest Hospital v. Dawn Lee	Foreign Judgment
Banner Finance v. Steven Lowe	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Rhiannon Bell	Small Claims
George Foreman v. Gordon Milner	Foreign Judgment
Saber Acceptance Co. V. Rayna Thornton	Petition
Tarrah Brown v. Brandon Denton	Petition
Billy Joe Ryder v. Chrystal Wafford	Petition
Loan Plus v. Ernest Tiger	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Barbara West	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Rathine Pendley	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Floyd Osborne	Small Claims
Horizon Credit, Inc. v. Jessica Smith	Small Claims
MCN v. Seven Hundred Thirteen Dollars and No/100	Forfeiture

Divorce:

Joshua Castleman v. Ashley Castleman	Divorce
Greta Merdanian v. Gerald Merdanian	Divorce
Michael Hames v. Melissa Hames	Divorce
Gary Wind v. Jennifer Wind	Divorce
Stephanie Howell v. Delos Howell	Divorce
Felicia McCargo v. Anthony Pettigrew	Divorce
Courtney Eaton v. Joshua Eaton	Divorce
Teanna Kingfisher v. Michael Kingfisher	Divorce
Carly Bodley v. Darrell Bodley	Divorce
Tonya Ladd v. Ray Ladd Jr.	Divorce
Kimberly Jones v. Bobby Jones	Divorce
Megan Guinn v. Darrell Guinn	Divorce
Jerry Henry v. Denise Henry	Divorce
Teresa Lewis v. Donald Lewis	Divorce
Elisha Pyle v. Jess Pyle	Divorce
Samantha Childers v. Shawn Childers	Divorce
Edward Bear v. Talana Bear	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Elizabeth Beaver v. Danny Beaver	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Krystalyn Foster v. Bradford Campbell	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Dana Coker v. William Hale	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Neosha Allen v. Javier Perez	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Ciara Smith v. Robert Adams Jr.	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Christina Girod v. Jordan Dozier	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Tobie King v. Leeroy Soap	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jeffrey Madden v. Kimberly Powell	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Amber Burgess v. Darrell Barnett	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Lecreshia Cloud v. Dustin Cloud	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Tammy Baker v. Eric Mitchell	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Lisa Brooks v. Trenton Brooks	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Brenda Littlebear v. Bryan McGert	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Tamrah Deo v. Stanley Reason	Ex-Parte
Trina Bevenue v. Alan Hogue	Ex-Parte
Kayla Tiger v. William Mercantel	Ex-Parte
James Marshall v. Jamie Marshall	Ex-Parte
Johnnie Branson v. James Morgan	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Jimmy Coffman	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. LaToya Gillespie	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Angelise Poole	Ct. 1: Battery
MCN v. Gregg Hogard	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Bonnie Guidrey	Ct. 1: Theft

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Loretta Denny	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Randall Hicks	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Luci Wolfe	Ct. 1: Poss. of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Poss. of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia

Traffic:

MCN v. Delroy Reed	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brandon Crook	DUS
MCN v. Vennie Blalock	Expired Tag
MCN v. Vennie Blalock	DUS
MCN v. Brooke Joshua	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Bobby Downs	Expired Tag
MCN v. Edgar Zamora	No Driver's License
MCN v. Henry Harris	DUS
MCN v. Amber Shelton	Starting, Turning, & Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Amber Shelton	DUS
MCN v. Richard Darnell	DUS
MCN v. Johnny Mouser	No Insurance
MCN v. Sherry Villines	DUS
MCN v. Braden Nichols	Expired Tag
MCN v. Exxon Brown	DUS
MCN v. Jason Campbell	DUS
MCN v. Theophilius Mollie	DUS
MCN v. Garfield Buford	DUS
MCN v. Donald Wilson	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kenneth Simms	Trespassing
MCN v. Lyndsey Huggins	Expired Driver's License
MCN v. Linda Hendon	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jeremy Smith	Expired Tag

Marriage Licenses:
No Activity

MCN Lighthorseman honored at military deployment send-off

MNN/*Rachel Mayberry*

Fellow Lighthorseman, family and friends came to show their support for SPC Marcus Duvall at a Banquet March 3, 2011 as he prepares for training camps and deployment to Afghanistan. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief of Staff Edwin Marshall is pictured above presenting Duvall with a miniature replica of stickball sporting equipment to represent bravery and courage on the battlefield as he travels overseas with the MP Batallion of the 45th Infantry Division.

Rachel Mayberry
Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — SPC Marcus Duvall, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and Lighthorse Policeman, is preparing for a year-long deployment to Afghanistan with the MP Battalion of the 45th Infantry Division. SPC Duvall and his unit will first participate in training at Camp Gruber and Camp Shelby in Miss.

The unit is expected to continue training at Ft. Polk in La., until deploying to Afghanistan this summer.

SPC Duvall is the son of Mark and Martha Duvall, brother of Matthew and Reanna and grandson of the late Amos Jose and Juanita Harjochee of Mason, the late Troy Duvall of Hitchita, and the late Georgia Duvall of Council Hill. He is a 2004 graduate of Morris High School.

SPC Duvall is of the Alligator Clan and a member of Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground. SPC Duvall's mother, Martha, hosted a send-off party at the Children and Family Services Building March 3, 2011. Chief of Staff Edwin Marshall welcomed attendees and spoke on behalf of Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

Also in attendance were: Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Secretary of the Nation Kevin Dellinger, Director of Veterans Affairs Ken Davis, Lighthorse Police Chief Jack Shackelford, fellow Lighthorsemen and Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees along with family and friends. The Duvall family would like to thank all those that were in attendance for the party and also for the prayers and support for Duvall's safe return.

Veterans' Scoop

Staff
Veterans Affairs Services Office

The Veterans' Scoop will feature articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Veterans urged to sign up for direct deposit

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefits by March 1, 2013. Officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) urge Veterans to sign up for electronic payment of their benefits.

"Receiving VA benefits electronically will increase the security, convenience and reliability of these vital payments," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "VA encourages Veterans who are now receiving their benefits in paper checks to set up direct deposits before the deadline."

On March 1, 2013, VA will stop issuing paper checks. People who do not have electronic payments for their federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card. Called the Direct Express card, it is issued by Comerica Bank as the financial agent of the U.S. Treasury.

Another deadline affects people receiving VA's compensation or pensions for the first time after May 1, 2011. Those people will automatically receive the benefits electronically.

Anyone already receiving federal benefit payments electronically will be unaffected by the changes. To learn more about the federal government's switch to direct deposit – or to change VA benefits to direct deposit, visit www.GoDirect.org. Information about the federal government's "Go Direct" campaign is also available at 1-800-333-1795.

Along with payments for VA benefit, the change will also affect recipients of payments from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management.

For more information about VA benefits and programs, go to www.va.gov or call toll free 1-800-827-1000.

Aid for veterans exposed to Agent Orange

WASHINGTON, D.C., — Veterans exposed to herbicides while serving along the demilitarized zone (DMZ) in Korea will have an easier path to access quality health care and benefits under a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) final regulation that will expand the dates when illnesses caused by herbicide exposure can be presumed to be related to Agent Orange.

VA will presume herbicide exposure for any Veteran who served between April 1, 1968, and Aug. 31, 1971, in a unit determined by VA and the Department of Defense (DoD) to have operated in an area in or near the Korean DMZ in which herbicides were applied.

In practical terms, eligible Veterans who have specific illnesses VA presumes to be associated with herbicide exposure do not have to prove an association between their illness and their military service. This "presumption" simplifies and speeds up the application process for benefits and ensures that Veterans receive the benefits they deserve.

Additional information is available at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange.

LIHEAP and Tribal Energy available through March 31

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department offers two programs in the winter for heating assistance.

New participants may apply beginning Jan. 10, 2011. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2011, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries.

The Tribal Energy program is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits.

To apply for either of these programs, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 - 4 p.m. Offices are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn.: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please do not mail CDIB/citizenship cards or original documents.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to (918) 549-2494 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. Call Social Services at (918) 549-2445 to find out when we'll be in your area. Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal enrollment cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Driver's license for those without a tribal enrollment card

3) Gas bill OR Propane vendor OR Wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric. You may be asked to verify this.)

4) Copies of all income sources – this is for LIHEAP and Tribal Energy

5) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

6) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

7) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities and/or deposits.

8) Additional documentation may be required based on your individual situation.

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Muscogee (creek) Nation Social Services at (918) 549-2445 for additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 2445.

Absentee ballot request forms to be mailed July 5, 2011

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released dates for the upcoming 2011 elections for Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don't receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

CASA training set for March 28

Media Release
Okmulgee CASA

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee County/Creek Nation CASA Program was established in 1987 and has been training community volunteers ever since. "Since our inception, I can't imagine the number of children our organization, specifically CASA advocates, has helped", stated Kim Deer, Interim Director. I have seen miracles happen in these children's lives because one individual spoke up and said "abused children deserve a chance"

The Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA) in Okmulgee County trains community volunteers to make informed recommendations on what is in the best interest of abused or neglected children.

CASA volunteers work in the courtrooms of Judge Duane Woodliff in Okmulgee County State Court and Judge Patrick Moore in the MCN District Court. Okmulgee County/Creek Nation CASA combined has over 40 volunteers, but according to Nancy Hancock, Okmulgee County CASA Volunteer Coordinator, it is just not enough.

"I have a filing cabinet full of children we just can't help because we do not have enough CASA advocates," Hancock stated.

The goal of the CASA program is to give every child that has been abused or neglected voice. They deserve it.

CASA training starts March 28, 2011. Please call Nancy Hancock for more information at (918) 756-2549 or e-mail at casaokm8@sbcglobal.net.

Division of Health now recruiting focus group participants

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for people to volunteer their time to participate in a focus group which will concentrate on patient experiences within Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers.

If you are a patient, legal guardian of a patient, family member of a patient or concerned community member and you would like to participate in a focus group regarding Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers please contact Anne Edwards, Patient Advocacy Coordinator at (918) 756-3334 ext. 287, call 1-877-579-4911 or e-mail anne.edwards@creekhealth.org

MCN Service Awards recognize employees

Media Release
MCN Personnel

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Personnel recently hosted the annual personnel service awards in Feb., at the Okmulgee Country Club.

The event honored employees for their years of service to the tribe, beginning with those that have been employed for at least 20 years.

Pictured at left are the employees who were recognized with a lunch and tokens of gratitude for their service to the Nation.

At the top, those recognized for 25 years of service include: Denise Stanley, Tami Alvarez, Ruby Booker, George Bell, Leroy Harjo, Alan Kelly, Ivan Pulliam, Susan Wheeler, Lydia Brown, Georgia Proctor, Fannie Washington, Mary Lee and Mary Feeling.

Those recognized for 20 years of service include: Martha Givens, Gerald Wofford, Lanita Stoops and Cynthia Dan.

Those recognized for 30 years of service include: Ron Raper, Melinda Deeringwater, Shirley Been and Betty Scott.

MCNPR/*Denise Jacobs*
Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees honored for 25 years of service.

MCNPR/*Denise Jacobs*
Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees honored for 20 years of service.

MCNPR/*Denise Jacobs*
Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees honored for 30 years of service.

Okmulgee Indian Community Elders' Meeting

MNN/*Rachel Mayberry*
The Okmulgee Indian Community seniors met Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011 with an agenda focused on senior activities, including upcoming wild onion dinners and other events of the season. Those in attendance were: Priscilla Kabeah, Rebeckah and Lawrence Autaubo, Anna King, Pennie Betsillie, Ken Ellis, OIC Chairman Esther Gee, and Lanissa Jack Melton, a guest of Esther Grona.

YMCA offers discounts to MCN citizens and military families

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*
Pictured above are Okmulgee YMCA Membership Coordinator Stephanie Howell and C.E.O. Robert Phillips. The local organization is providing discounted memberships to tribal citizens and free memberships to qualifying military families.

Media Release
Okmulgee YMCA

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee County Family YMCA is currently offering reduced membership fees for all Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees and citizens.

In order to received the discounted membership, applicants must present an MCN tribal citizenship cards and or employee badge at the time of enrollment.

YMCA has also partnered with the Department of Defense to assist families of deployed military personnel with up to an 18 month membership at no cost to the family while their spouse is on active duty.

The following groups are eligible for this program:

- All interested families of joint deployed Army National Guard and Reservists of all military branches.
- Active Duty Independent Duty Personnel and their families
- Relocated spouses and family members of deployed Active Duty Personnel.

In order to register for this specific membership, applicants will need a copy of Military Orders to a CBWTU (Community Based Warrior Transition Unit) and military I.D. Card to be presented with completed YMCA membership form.

Members may take advantage of all free benefits that come with memberships at the YMCA including:

- Yoga
- Zumba
- Step, Toning & Abs
- Silver Sneakers
- Youth Basketball
- Youth Soccer
- Youth Tumbling Classes
- Cardio Combo Classes
- Low impact aerobics
- Karate/Self Defense Class
- Full men's and women's dry Sauna
- Full men's and women's locker rooms and showers.

For more information, please contact Okmulgee County Family YMCA Membership Coordinator Stephanie Howell at (918) 756-6677.

Speaker

Continued from A2

Alexander: "I am fortunate to have attended National Council meetings since 1993 when I became the Tax Commissioner. It was fascinating from the start, and I learned so much from the system and those involved. Former Speaker Clarence Cloud insisted I learn about the constitution and tribal law. My philosophy mirrors that of those Council members from the past, and is based upon the legitimate legislative powers found in the constitution. It includes a promise never to forget those lessons and to use them on a daily basis."

MNN: Has being Second Speaker changed your ideas or philosophy in anyway since you began up until now?

Alexander: "I don't think serving as second speaker has changed me much, because the leaders before me were always so open about how things were done. I don't want to make any mistakes, and do what I can for future leaders."

MNN: When you first took the office of second speaker, what was your approach as far as relating with the Executive and Judicial offices?

Alexander: "When my second speaker term began, I'd been on the Council for four years and had been sued by the Principal Chief at least that many times. Obviously I was aware of the strife, but not the underlying reasons. Hence, I regarded our tribal government as three separate and distinct branches working for the people in their own way. I was concerned about litigation involving the Judicial Branch that was not revealed to the National Council until a month after a negative ruling had been received in the Northern District US District Court. The executive branch was still communicating with the National Council, but not very much."

MNN: When you first came into office you knew that you would have to communicate and work with the Executive and Judicial branches, obviously the controversy involving communities, the budget, and tribal court have caused things to change. Can you point to any specific situation or action(s) that began to lead to this point of where we are today?

Alexander: "The turmoil blew wide open when the six chartered community gaming centers were nationalized by the Principal Chief's office. This action froze community bank accounts, caused panic and chaos, led to lost jobs; and was done late in the day on a Friday afternoon like white people do things. Approximately $20 million was stolen from these communities, and lawsuits were filed. Former judge Moore made a controversial ruling that legitimized this theft and rendered an opinion long on federal law but short on tribal law, practicality and rationality. His ruling is the most convoluted legal document I'd ever seen. That was the shot heard across the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

MNN: "When you were served with a subpoena to appear in tribal court, what was it for and what was your first reaction?

Alexander: "My first subpoena was issued by Chief Ellis as plaintiff in one of several lawsuits he's filed. To be honest, I've lost count of them. From my reading, I was to testify on behalf of Chief Ellis. My reaction was to find humorous the notion of the plaintiff that somehow my testimony might be helpful."

MNN: What do citizens need to know about this issue, that perhaps they don't know?

Alexander: "The National Council has done an extremely poor job of keeping the citizens informed about its view of these issues. Council members are very diligent in what they do, and I'm sure this communication really hasn't crossed their minds because we've never had such a volatile dispute. The essence of this dispute is the failure of the Principal Chief to make a judicial appointment. IT IS THAT SIMPLE. Tribal law calls for this to occur; it is the Principal Chief's DUTY to follow the law he swore to uphold several times. When the judge's term expired on June 30, 2010, the Supreme Court Chief Justice arbitrarily extended the term on his own without the other five justices. He issued an administrative order not worth the paper it's written on. Around the same time, Chief Ellis illegally fired the Attorney General and replaced him by executive order. Accordingly, the situation has tainted and stained those responsible for the law."

MNN: "Since your court appearance, how has your approach changed in dealing with the Principal Chief's office, and the Tribal Court System?

Alexander: "Since the court appearances, I personally was fined $2,500 by this judge whose term expired in a court that has been abolished. The illegal order circumvented all due process and, though appealed, directed the controller to immediately withhold the fine from my National Council compensation. In addition, the Principal Chief ordered the controller to begin collecting these fines immediately. In a just world, collection of the fines is usually stayed or delayed until an appeal process is over. This abuse of power by the former judge and the Principal Chief has absolutely impacted my approach in dealing with the tribal court system and the Principal Chief."

MNN: The term of Tribal District Judge Patrick Moore was to have ended in June of 2010, but has been extended by the Supreme Court order; your reaction to this?

Alexander: "Members of the National Council watched Pat Moore refuse to leave on June 30, 2011 when his term expired and hide behind the Chief Justice's illegal administrative order. In October, the legislature passed a law that abolished the District Court (in it's entirety) and replaced it with three separate courts; Civil, Family and Criminal. The Principal Chief vetoed this bill, and the veto was overridden by the National Council on Nov. 20, 2010. As a result, a former judge is attempting to run a court that no longer exists. My reaction to Pat Moore refusing to leave is one of astonishment. Over a year ago, his nomination for another term was submitted to the National Council for confirmation and was soundly defeated. When the Supreme Court Chief Justice arbitrarily extended this expired term, I knew it was illegal and suspected other members of the Supreme Court were never consulted. As a result, the Judicial Branch is corrupt and unreliable. While tribal law requires four votes to issue an opinion by this six-member court, the Supreme Court has routinely issued opinions based upon three votes. We've since learned that Moore and sitting Supreme Court Justices Houston Shirley and Jonodev Chadhuri are subjects of a federal investigation in the Eastern District."

MNN: Is there a good judicial candidate to fill this position that you feel the Chief and the Council could agree on?

Alexander: "There are good candidates available for judicial nominations. The new court system requires three judges, and for the Principal Chief to make these appointments. Most of our fathers and grandfathers worked hard and set great examples for their children and grandchildren, and they possessed something from within called a sense of duty. The duty to do the correct things required of them was a standard. I submit that had any of these elders been the Principal Chief of this Nation, and the law required them to make a judicial appointment, they would not have hesitated out of this sense of duty. They would have immediately recognized that the failure to make such an appointment meant the failure to do their job. However, the current Principal Chief lacks character and ignores this duty. Although his past work experiences did not include professional relationships, he could have sought advice. This abject failure to make judicial appointments is inexcusable."

MNN: "Have all the problems between the National Council and the Principal Chief's office become so great, that the window of 'working things out' have passed by and now it is all up to Federal Courts to decide?

Alexander: "In my view, the problems between the Principal Chief and the National Council include a conspiracy involving an illegal court system and outlaws within the Attorney General and Lighthorse Police. The National Council made an unsuccessful attempt to get into Federal Court last week, and the message was that all tribal remedies had not yet been exhausted. The National Council will be seeking to exhaust all tribal remedies."

MNN: Does this effect the tribe's sovereignty by requesting outside courts to help decide tribal issues?

Alexander: "Going to the federal courts for outside help is never good for sovereignty. It makes it look like the tribe wants sovereignty, but cannot solve internal problems that go along with having sovereignty. Most Council members find going to the federal courts repugnant and distasteful, however there really is no choice when ignoring the law and rampant misbehavior become a way of life."

MNN: "Perhaps to many Creek citizens that are hearing of this court cases, budget battles, and the issues facing tribal communities, they might be saying something like 'Well, why can't everyone just get together, talk things out, and make everything work out,' what might you say to them?

Alexander: "To the citizens who wonder why we can't come together, I would respond by saying Chief Ellis quit talking to the National Council over a year ago. The constitution requires National Council advise and consent to the budget process, and the legislature has given its advice and consent after budget hearings held in the same manner for 30 years. This year, the Principal Chief wanted changes in National Council budget hearing procedures, and refused to make his line managers available to the legislature. He enjoys the chaos created by the conspiracy he shares with the attorney general, police and judicial branch; and unfortunately I see no reason or hope for accomplishment for the balance of his term."

MNN: "What can we do as a tribe to heal the current situations?

Alexander: "Unfortunately, it does not appear the healing process will begin until a new administration is elected and sworn in. I hate to be negative, but am simply calling them as I see them. In my view, our past elections have been little more than popularity contests. Serious tribal citizens must use voting opportunities to elect sound leadership in the future. Due to gaming revenues and expansions into other viable businesses, future leaders have to be knowledgeable and experienced in business and financial matters. The good old boy system must become a thing of the past."

SECTION B

FEATURES

March 15, 2011 edition

Hill sweeps swine competition

• Local middle-school student raises Grand Champion

MNN/*Rachel Mayberry*

Pictured above is Lainey Hill who received the honor of Breed and Grand Champion for her Cross-bred swine at the Hughes County Livestock Show in March.

Rachel Mayberry
MNN Intern Reporter

HOLDENVILLE — Lainey Hill is an eighth grade student at Moss Public School. She has been showing lambs since the 4th grade and 2011 was her first year to show swine.

Lainey's Hampshire placed 9th in it's weight class, her Berkshire won breed champion and her Cross-bred placed Breed Champion and overall Grand Champion in the Swine division at the Hughes County Livestock Show.

Lainey is on the honor roll at her school and also participates in basketball and softball. Lainey is a member of the Hughes County 4-H Club and FFA at her school.

Lainey attends the First Assembly of God Church in Wetumka. Her parents are Kenneth and Rebecca Hill. Grandparents are Woody and Lola Fields and Kenneth and June Hill of Wetumka.

Head Start Program now accepting applications

Media Release
MCN Head Start

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application.

All races and ethnicities may apply. Interested applicants should begin the application process now, as it does take some time to complete.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011.

Other services provided include: meals, health and social services, speech testing, individualized teaching services for children with special needs, and parent involvement. Transportation services may be available.

Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah. For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

Summer Youth applications due April 1, 2011

Media Release
MCN Employment and Training

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Summer Youth Employment Program is now accepting applications for Native youth ages 16-21.

All applicants must be a member of a federally-recognized tribe and live within the Creek Nation boundaries.

Although the deadline for obtaining an application has lapsed as of March 18, the deadline to submit all paperwork and documentation is set for April 1, 2011.

No faxed applications will be accepted.

To apply for the program or for more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training offices at (918) 732-7775, (918) 732-7776 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7775 or 7776.

B2 JUMPS

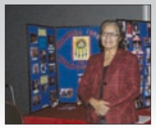
Continued from A1

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wild Onion Dinners

B5 SPOTLIGHT

Littlecreek makes big impact

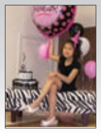


B6 PEOPLE

Obituary: Bertha Mae Taylor

B7 PEOPLE

Birthday: Mya Harjo



Dome

Continued from A1

The interior features of the building will be well-equipped for hosting multiple functions and activities for Muscogee (Creek) citizens and the community.

The building will ideally attract tourism and generate more publicity for Creek Nation. Because Okmulgee doesn't have a venue as large as the multi-purpose building, it will be beneficial to the tribe and the local community. This building will be able to host conferences, concerts and other events that may not have been able to be held in the area before the development of such a large capacity venue.

"It will accommodate 1,500 to 2,000 inside for events, including six basketball goals and provisions for volleyball tournaments," Morgan said.

Morgan said facilities will include a concession stand, rest rooms, showers, fitness room, lounge, classrooms, locker rooms, main research and staff offices, storage and a café.

According to the original ICDBG for the Multi-purpose building, communication within the Nation is projected to be enhanced by the creation of a large-scale meeting complex; the overall health of the Nation may also be enhanced with the addition of the wellness center.

"The facility is a concrete structure that has been designed by the architect for high-wind resistance and improved heating and cooling through green initiatives," Morgan said. "This is the first project done with the Concrete Masonry Unit, or CMU brick for exterior walls."

"The building's seating goes up to two stories with ten rooms inside," Morgan said.

Morgan said all buildings and structures will be newly constructed from HUD grants, Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) and MCN National Council appropriations.

Brian On-The-Hill, Tourism and Recreation Project Specialist, said his department will oversee the use and maintenance of the building with the revenue brought in from sales, activity fees and other funds.

"The money earned will be used to maintain the building. It will be a benefit to the entire tribe," On-The-Hill said.

On-The-Hill said the building will be a common meeting place for the Muscogee (Creek) people to call their own.

"The Nation will use it as a place for employee gatherings, fund raisers, trainings and events, among other things," On-The-Hill said. "There will be a fitness facility that will be open for membership."

On-The-Hill said Tourism and Recreation will book entertainment for revenue-generating concerts, host sports camps and cultural enrichment activities for youth.

"We want to keep the building in use," On-The-Hill said.

On-The-Hill said plans are to make the building available to lease for events. There will be a different price range for citizens and other individuals.

"This is a topic in meetings with the Multi-purpose Building Advisory Committee," On-The-Hill said. "Okmulgee doesn't have a venue that can seat as many as people as our multi-purpose building will be able to seat, so we look forward to the prospect of having several Okmulgee businesses use our venue."

There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony in April for the new Multi-purpose Building.

"I can't give out details at this moment but it will be one to attend because this will be a memorable moment," On-The-Hill said.

The Multipurpose Building will be used during Muscogee (Creek) Festival and other tribal events throughout the year.

"In the past, we have had to use the other facilities for the Challenge Bowl and Festival events such as the Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant and the 3-on-3 basketball tournaments," On-The-Hill said. "Once the dome is complete, we will be able to hold those events at the Claude Cox Omniplex along with the majority of other events during the festival."

On-The-Hill said Tourism and Recreation doesn't plan to schedule any events until the building is complete.

"Historically, we are resourceful people and we'll carry on just as we always have," On-The-Hill said.

On-The-Hill said at the moment, his department is concentrating on the quickly-approaching 2011 Festival.

"That is an immensely daunting task, and a huge thanks goes out, in advance, to all those anticipating on volunteering this year," On-The-Hill said. "Other than that, we've just been considering what kind of events we'd like to plan for the Multi-purpose Building and we're excited about the prospects and the endless possibilities that we now possess thanks to the construction of the dome."

Julie Moss, Muscogee Nation Office of Administration Planner, said original designs for the floor plan of the Multi-purpose Building were to make it a rectangular, one-story building; however, after more research was conducted, the dome design was chosen.

"Because of the dome space design; however, the building is very energy efficient," Moss said. "Once the building reaches an ambient temperature, it will hold that for a very long time."

Moss said the building is also designed to be a tornado shelter and built to withstand a certain level of storm and tornado damage.

"The building doesn't have to hold as much tonnage in the HVAC system as well," Moss said.

"It's a monolithic dome; the same type of structure that can be found at area schools," On-The-Hill said.

On-The-Hill said guests will also notice the symbols along the periphery of the upper portion of the dome, that represent the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"There are 16 clan symbols representing clans that are said to have living members," On-The-Hill said.

Moss said the initial projected budget is was $800,000 with $1.5 million in leveraging resources, based on a rating factor in a HUD grant.

"Altogether the actual cost of the project has been about $2.3 million," Moss said.

In terms of the delay in building and projected date for completion of the building, On-The-Hill said worry is vain.

"Worrying about the delay for construction of the building or the projected date for completion will do none of us any good and won't speed up the process," On-The-Hill said. "We've existed and operated without this building since the tribe's re-organization."

Moss said the delay of completion for the building was due to the retirement of the original construction director and changes to personnel and the original design.

"It was meant to be a smaller building at first, but the final total sq. ft., is 23,500," Moss said.

According to the ICBG Project Narrative, there are at least four components vital to the success of a community: Communication with the community members, a common meeting or gathering place to call their own, knowledge of, and a sense of pride in the community and its history and the actual physical well being of the citizens of the community.

The narrative also states the proposed Multi-Purpose building will meet these all of these current needs. The facility will provide for wellness classes to enhance the health of our citizens, provide for large-scale meetings, and offer classrooms to provide space to enhance knowledge of Mvskoke culture.

For more information on the project, please contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism and Recreation at (918) 732-7992.

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CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Little Cussetah Wild Onion Dinner

SCHULTER — The Little Cussetah United Methodist Church will host a Wild Onion Dinner on Saturday, April 2, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Meals are $8 a plate.

For more information, contact Karen King at (918) 752-8230 or Nelson Harjo (918) 650-5206.

Concharty Wild Onion Dinner

OKMULGEE —The Concharty United Methodist Church will host a Wild Onion Dinner Saturday, March 26, 2011 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Adults and take-out orders will be $8 and children 12 and under will be $5.

The church is located at 19040 Garfield Road, in Okmulgee (4 Miles north of Interstate Highway 16 on Bixby Road and one mile east on Garfield Road).

For more information, call (918) 366-8450 or send e-mail to: info@kvncate.com

Big Cussetah Wild Onion Dinner

MORRIS — Big Cussetah United Methodist Church is hosting an all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner Saturday, March 19 from 11a.m. - 3 p.m.

Prices are $8 for adults, $5 for children 10 years and under and $8 for all carry outs.

The church is located 3 1/2 miles south on Prairie Bell Road from New Morris Hwy.

For more information contact Miley Hargis at (918) 342-3637.

Broken Arrow Wild Onion Dinner

BROKEN ARROW — Broken Arrow United Methodist Church is hosting a Wild Onion Dinner Saturday, March 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The church is located at 20854 E. 141st St., in Broken Arrow. Dinners are $8 and include onions, beans, corn, meat, frybread, beverages and desserts.

For more information contact Irene McHenry.

Haikey Chapel Wild Onion Dinner

TULSA — Haikey Chapel UMC will be having their Wild Onion Dinner March 19, 2011.

Dinner will be served from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Adults are $7.50 and children's plates are $3.50.

The church is located at 8503 E 101st St., in Tulsa.

For more information, contact Pastor Royce Wittman at (918) 284-7003.

Springfield Wild Onion Dinner

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church will host their annual Wild Onion Dinner, on-site Saturday, April 2 beginning at 11 a.m.

Bruner Family Benefit Food Sale

HOLDENVILLE — A benefit breakfast sale will be held Saturday, April 2, 2011 at the Holdenville Indian Community Center from 8 a.m.-11a.m. Breakfasts will be $5 per plate and all proceeds will benefit the 30th annual Bruner Family Reunion.

For more information, please contact Abby Larney at (405) 379-8187 or Joyce at (580) 320-5339.

New Covenant Tabernacle Gospel Singing

HENRYETTA — A gospel singing fund raiser for the New Covenant Tabernacle Church will be held on Saturday, April 2, from 7 p.m.-12 a.m., will be held on-site at 18725 Hwy. 266 in Henryetta near Grayson.

For more information, call (918) 291-2044.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month set for April

OKMULGEE — April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program will be hosting an awareness walk tentatively scheduled for April 27, 2011.

For more information, please contact the Family Violence Prevention Program at (918) 732-7869.

Tulsa Powwow 2011

TULSA — The 2011 Tulsa Powwow will be held at the Spirit Bank Event Center, located at 105th and S. Memorial, July 29-31. Booths are a 10 X 10 space and cost $75.00 for the weekend.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2011 Tulsa Powwow Princess until March 19, 2011. Applicants must be female, a member of a federally-recognized tribe between the ages of 15-21 with a GPA of 2.5 or more.

For artist, arts and craft information, please contact Robert Anquoe at (918) 671-8366 or www.tulsapowwow.org. Applications for princess may be mailed to: 2966 W. 66th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132, Faxed: (918) 445-4947 or e-mailed: cherrahridge@gmail.com

Peach Ground Food Bingo

HANNA — Peach Ground benefit food bingo will be held April 2, 2011 at Arbeka Community building. A food sale will begin at 1 p.m., which will include Indian tacos, sodas, fry bread, beans, salt meat, and burgers. Bingo will begin at 2 p.m., with mini's, specials and raffles.

Springfield annual Memorial Gospel Singing

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church will host their annual Memorial Gospel Singing on May 29 beginning at 7 p.m.

Rev. David Little will be the emcee and concessions will be available.

Butler Creek celebrates 100th anniversary

MUSKOGEE — Butler Creek Baptist Church will be holding their 100-year Anniversary Celebration Sunday,, April 10, 2011, beginning at 11 a.m.

Guest Speakers will be Rev. Washington and Rev. Allison Phillips. Lunch will be served and church singing will take place in the afternoon. Guests are asked to bring lawn chairs. Each church will be given the opportunity to give a devotional after lunch.

For more information, contact Pastor Norman Daniel at (918) 682-9645.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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Art Under the Oaks set for April 16-17 in Muskogee

Media Release
Five Civilized Tribes Museum

MUSKOGEE — Enjoy a month of art and culture at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum in Muskogee. Beginning with the Cultural Art Show, opening on April 3, the museum celebrates the unique style of the Five Tribes – Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole. This festive art show features textiles, pottery, basketry, gourds, knapping and jewelry all reflecting the culture and history of the Five Tribes. "Every year I am amazed at the creative talents of this group of artists. It is a beautiful show with lots of texture and color," said Mary Robinson, Director.

The Five Civilized Tribes Museum annual Art Under the Oaks Market and Festival will be held the weekend of April 16th and 17th on museum grounds. Each year, in conjunction with the Muskogee Azalea Festival, the museum hosts a cultural festival reflecting the culture, heritage and traditions of the Five Tribes removed from their homelands in the 1830s to Indian Territory.

Entertainment will be provided throughout the weekend. Tommy Wildcat, Cherokee, will open the festival with his original flute music.

Will Hill, Muscogee (Creek) and Jehnean Washington, Seminole, Euchee, Shoshone, will give two storytelling performance on Saturday, April 16th at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. On Sunday, April 17th, Greg Rodgers, Choctaw and Robert Lewis, Cherokee will be featured "Storytellers."

The Choctaw dancers will perform at noon on Saturday, followed by the Cherokee Adult Choir.

Robert Lewis, Cherokee storyteller, will be at the museum on Sunday engaging the audience in his unique style of storytelling. Also, Greg Rodgers, Choctaw will be joining Robert on Sunday for storytelling.

Historic re-enactors, Mike Berryhill, Muscogee (Creek) and Noel Grayson, Cherokee, will show what life was like in the 1800s. Dressed in period clothing, they will demonstrate the art of primitive tool making.

Basket weaver, Sandra Wilson, Muscogee (Creek), and Joann Rackliff Richmond, Cherokee Potter, will share the skills of their trade. Materials will be available for those want to try their hand at weaving or making a clay pot.

Weather permitting, a gospel singing will be held on the south porch at 2:00 pm Sunday.

Vendors for the market will have handmade items reflecting the heritage of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee or Seminole Tribes. Artists will sell originals to prints in their booths. Visitors can enjoy a traditional Creek meal or a fabulous Indian taco.

"Art Under the Oaks Market and Festival" is provided with the assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council.

All of the family entertainment is free and open to the public.

For more information on this event and others at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, please call 918-683-1701, website at fivetribes.org or e-mail 5civilizedtribes@sbcglobal.net. Museum hours for the festival weekend are 10 to 5 daily.

Cobell settlement deadline set for April 20, 2011

Media Release
Desautel Hege Communications

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Court-ordered process of notifying individual Indians of their right to participate in the historic $3.4 billion class action Settlement, Cobell v. Salazar, is underway. The Settlement resolves claims related to Individual Indian Money (or IIM) accounts and land held in trust by the federal government for the benefit of individual Indians.

Class Members all over the country are receiving detailed information about their legal rights and options via U.S. Mail. Information will also be provided through an extensive media campaign, which includes Native America print media, television and radio ads, and online advertising.

On Dec. 21, 2010, U.S. Senior District Judge Thomas F. Hogan granted preliminary approval of the Settlement, setting in motion a process through which hundreds of thousands of individual Indians who have or had government-managed IIM accounts or trust lands may receive some of the $3.4 billion Settlement Fund.

The judge's approval came after Congress passed and the President signed legislation approving the Settlement. Current estimates project that most Class Members will receive about $1,800, with some Class Members receiving much more depending on the level of activity in their IIM accounts.

The $3.4 billion Settlement was reached between the Departments of the Interior and Treasury and the individual Indian plaintiffs in December 2009. The Settlement resolves the government's failure to provide an historical accounting for IIM accounts and also resolves claims that the government mismanaged funds and other trust assets, including royalties owed to individual Indians for oil, gas, grazing, and other leases of individual Indian lands, mostly in the West.

The Settlement provides a $1.5 billion fund to compensate an estimated 500,000 affected individual Indian trust beneficiaries who have or had IIM accounts or own trust land. The Settlement creates two groups of Class Members eligible to receive money from the fund—the Historical Accounting Class and the Trust Administration Class.

- The Historical Accounting Class comprises individual Indians who were alive on September 30, 2009, who had an open IIM account anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, and whose account had at least one cash transaction.

- The Trust Administration Class comprises individual Indians alive on September 30, 2009, who had an IIM Account at any time from 1985 through September 30, 2009, recorded in currently available electronic data in federal government systems, as well as individual Indians who, as of September 30, 2009, had a recorded or demonstrable interest in land held in trust or restricted status.

- The estates of deceased Class Members will also receive a Settlement distribution if the deceased beneficiary's account was open as of September 30, 2009, or their land interest was open in probate as of that date. Other eligibility conditions and requirements for each Class are detailed in the Settlement Agreement.

Under the Settlement Agreement, $1.9 billion will fund a Department of the Interior program to buy fractionated interests in trust or restricted land from willing sellers to benefit tribal communities and aid in land consolidation. Depending on the level of participation in the land consolidation program, up to $60 million will be set aside to provide scholarships for higher education for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

Information about the Settlement and legal rights is available to all American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The web site www.IndianTrust.com and toll-free number 1-800-961-6109 are available to provide more information about the Settlement and the legal rights of Class Members. Individuals who are unsure whether they are included in the Settlement should visit the website or call the toll-free number for more information.

Class Members who receive a formal notice in the mail about the Settlement and who are currently receiving IIM account statements do not have to do anything to receive payment. Individuals who believe they should be part of the Settlement but do not receive a notice in the mail or are not receiving IIM account statements need to fill out a Claim Form as soon as possible, available at the Indian Trust web site or by calling the toll-free number.

Individuals wishing to keep their right to sue the federal government over mismanagement claims covered by the Settlement must exclude themselves from the Settlement by April 20, 2011. Class Members can also submit written comments or objections about any Settlement terms that concern them by April 20, 2011.

Littlecreek makes big impact on Indian education in Okla.; retires after 35 years

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

CATOOSA — They say a person is best remembered by how they served others and made a difference in their lives. For Valeria Littlecreek, her resume qualifies for this honor, having been dedicated to Indian education for five decades.

It has always been in Littlecreek's heart to help Native American students and her education allowed her to do that.

Littlecreek has worked with several tribes and their Indian education departments, even serving as director with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation during the Bill Fife administration. Because of her dedication and commitment toward Indian education, Littlecreek's name and reputation has given her a quality endorsement, even from other tribes throughout the country.

When Littlecreek was considering an educational position in N.M., a few years ago, then State Superintendent Sandy Garrett phoned her personally and asked her to stay.

"I understand that you are leaving us," recalls Littlecreek when Garrett contacted her. Littlecreek told her of the position in Albuquerque and Garrett mentioned a position that would become available in the Oklahoma Department of Education in their Tribal Affairs program. Littlecreek stayed at home and served.

Because of health concerns, Littlecreek had to resign her position in the Oklahoma Department of Tribal Affairs and Indian Education Feb. 10, 2011. Although the Creek lady, who grew up in the Okemah area and went to school at Mason, has slowed down her activities calendar just a bit, she continues to make her voice known in when it comes to ensuring Native American kids are well represented in education.

Littlecreek can relate to how tough it can be for an Indian child to ask for assistance in the classroom, but to also obtain that special 'guidance' that every student needs, regardless of race.

MNN/Gerald Wofford

Pictured above is recently retired Director of Tribal Affairs for the Oklahoma State Dept. of Education Valeria Littlecreek who attended the state Johnson O'Malley conference in Catoosa, Okla., this past month.

Littlecreek began teaching at Holdenville Public Schools in the 1976 where she worked as a tutor and curriculum specialist, but also taught American Indian studies at the eighth grade level. Littlecreek noticed that the students had a lot of questions of how the Indians of that day were dealing with the political and social issues back then. Littlecreek listened, adapted and helped the class understand the issues from the Native perspective.

During this time, she was asked to attend sessions and learn more about Indian education assistance from the Title IV program. Littlecreek found out that the representation for Native Americans was lacking, but also that women in this program were almost non-existent. As she attended more Title IV sessions, she learned that she had to become assertive and let her voice be known. Although this was something that she was not accustomed to, she knew that doing so would ultimately benefit the Indian student.

Two years later, she found herself at East Central University in Ada working for the Seminole Bilingual program and their curriculum development. There, she got in touch with the local Indian community and listened to many Indian students and parents. Although she was originally researching Native language and how it could be best preserved and taught, Littlecreek found herself hearing from the Native American community that Indian kids needed help in the educational system and assistance to go farther. It was at this time, she says she knew she really wanted to dedicate her life to helping Indian students in any way possible at the educational level to better themselves and their families.

Littlecreek recalls when she began teaching at the middle school level and how different it was then. "Back then, we didn't have any counselors to tell us what we should do and how to do things. So that's what I wanted to do, I wanted to be there to help Indian students who may not have anyone to tell them what to do."

Littlecreek says she began to specialize in classes such as school counseling and psychology in an effort to improve her ability to help students. She found herself listening to the call of Native American students at the state level as well. These steps would allow Littlecreek to visualize helping the American Indian student in the classroom, as well as in helping shape decisions overall.

"I felt like I could always help more kids on the legislative side of things, but that's always been my passion and it's great to see kids graduate and go on. I've had a few come and tell me, "Thank you for being so hard on us and making us stay in school. It's always been a joy to see the students walk across the stage and get their diploma and that maybe, just a little bit, I had something to do with that by helping them stay in school."

Littlecreek does see the landscape of Indian education changing, both positively and negatively.

"There is change," says Littlecreek when discussing the Native American student of today, "The Indian students of today, many of them do not have that traditional background and upbringing and teaching that I went through. My Mom was very strict on us when we went to school and we were raised in a traditional environment and I still live that way today, . . . there's a lot more assistance out there today for students and with the technical age - computers and all the things available. There is no reason why a student today cannot go to college or some type of post-secondary education. The assistance is there, they just got to know that they can do it. That hasn't changed. Many of our students lack the confidence in themselves - they don't believe in themselves and they don't like who they are. Many of our students come from poverty-stricken areas . . . if they could just believe in themselves and know that . . . they can do whatever they want to do and there's so much counseling available and assistance, they just need to take the steps and get it."

OBITUARIES

JO ANN FOLEY

HOLDENVILLE — Jo Ann Foley was born June 29, 1937 in Claremore to Phillip Dunzy and Yanna Fixico Dunzy and passed from this life Feb. 14, 2011 in Holdenville at the age of 73.

Foley was raised in the Hickory Ridge area and attended the Hickory Ridge Grade School. She later graduated from Weleetka High School. In 1964 she was married to Sonny Foley. They first made their home in Holdenville and later settled at her home place near Wetumka in 1976. She worked as a seamstress for many years at Seamproof in Holdenville, Big Yank in Wewoka, and POK Sewing Factory in Pharoah.

Foley was baptized at Middle Creek Indian Baptist Church #1 in 1975 by Rev. Major Hawkins and later moved her membership to Salt Creek Indian Baptist. She dearly loved her church work. Spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren, was also dear to her heart.

She was preceded in death by her husband Sonny, a son Mark, and three brothers, Felix, Raymond, and Diamond.

Survivors include four children, Larry Barnes and wife Lezli of Rhome, Texas and Brian, Jerry, and Dana Foley, all of Wetumka, a sister Delois Roulston and husband Dempsey of Shawnee, two nephews, Donnie and David Dunzy, two Nieces, Cilia Litsey and Della LaSarge, eight grandchildren, one great grandson, along with other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Feb. 17 at 1:30 p.m., at the Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Frank Moppin officiating assisted by Rev. Eugene Whitlow. Pallbearers were Billy Byrd, Billy Ray Smith, Kenneth Larney, Johnny Fixico, Tony Fixico, and Preston Meely. Honorary bearers were Parker Foley, David Dunzy, Donny Dunzy, Robert Fixico, Curtis Scott, Arnold Meely, Dempsey Roulston, and Billy Dean Price. Interment took place at the Salt Creek Cemetery under the direction of Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home of Wetumka.

BOBBY JACKSON

OKMULGEE — Bobby Lee Jackson, a resident of Okmulgee, passed away Sunday, March 6, 2011 at the age of 78. He was born Thursday, Dec. 15, 1932 to Robert and Annie (Brown) Jackson in Okemah. He was a member of the Arbeka Methodist Church and had gone to Sunday School at the Belvin Baptist Church until he became ill.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Annie Jackson and one daughter, Connie Jackson.

Survivors include his wife, Sally Jackson of the home; six daughters, Ramona Bender and husband, George of Anna, Texas, Margaret Dunivan and husband, James of Powhatan, Virginia, Rita Newton and husband, Michael of Van Buren, Arkansas, Paula Jackson of McAlester, Edna Ross and husband, Tim of Okmulgee and Rita Zuniga of Tulsa; two sisters, Martha Jackson of Okemah and Ann Harjo and husband, John of Midwest City; foster brother, Dale Jackson of Oklahoma City; two aunts, Christina Luttrell of Okemah and Jeanette Worley of California; twenty-one grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Visitation was held Wednesday, March 9, 2011 from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., and Thursday from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., at the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Okmulgee.

Wake Services were held Thursday, March 10, 2011 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m., at the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Okmulgee with Rev.Alfred Berryhill officiating.

Funeral Services were held at 1 p.m., Friday, March 11, 2011 at the Belvin Baptist Church with Pastor Randy Colbert officiating. Burial followed the service at the Okmulgee Cemetery under the direction of the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

Pallbearers were Keith Phillips, Shannon Starr, Warren Franks, Tim Ross, James Starr and John Billie.

Honorary Pallbearers were Roy Starr, David Starr, Michael Starr and Terry Starr.

Friends may send their condolences to www.shurdenjackson.com.

BERTHA MAE TAYLOR

OKMULGEE — Bertha Mae Taylor went home to be with the Lord at the age of 75 on her birthday Jan. 26, 2011. She was born at home in Schulter to Alice and Hully Taylor on Jan. 26, 1936.

Bertha attended grammar school at Schulter School and completed her high school education at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas. After high school she received her R.N., certification from St. Johns School of Nursing in Tulsa. She received her Associates of Arts degree from Cerritos College in Cerritos, Calif., and later her Bachelor's degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla.

Bertha lived many years in Calif., where she worked at various hospitals as a registered nurse. In the early 70s, she established the medical health program at the elders' care facility on the Maricopa Reservation in Ariz.

She was an active member of the First American Indian Church in Los Angeles. She retired from the Los Angeles County and returned to her childhood home in Schulter.

Bertha devoted her time to career, relatives, church and hobbies. She was an accomplished Muscogee basket maker and seamstress. She made corn husk dolls and sewed Muscogee vests and dresses. She was a member of the Okmulgee Crocheting Club and taught classes for the Okmulgee Indian Community summer youth program. She was also a contestant in the 2007 Muscogee (Creek) Elders Pageant.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Alice and Hully and her younger brother Marvin.

She is survived by brothers Nelson Taylor (Inez) of Los Angeles and Ken Taylor (Luanna) of Anaheim, Calif. Sisters Buna Taylor of Lawrence Kansas, Irene Aguilar of Santa Fe, N.M., Quannah Suwanvittaya (Chaun) of Costa Mesa, Calif., and numerous nieces and nephews.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

CLOUD-MOUNTAIN LION

OWASSO — The proud parents of Ms. Stephanie Rae Cloud and Mr. Jason J. Mountain Lion are pleased to announce the upcoming wedding of their children on Saturday, May 7, 2011.

Stephanie R. Cloud is the daughter of Laura (Little) Cloud and Stephen Cloud and granddaughter (maternal) to the late Millie and Buster Little of Okemah and granddaughter (paternal) to the late Nellie (Barnett) Jones of Bristow.

She is an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and currently resides in the Washington, D.C., metro area.

Jason J. Mountain Lion is the son of Jay Mountain Lion and Lara Jean Arrowchis-Ivie and an enrolled member of the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation in Fort Duchesne, Utah.

Both are employed with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Stephanie works in Washington, D.C., as a Staff Assistant for the Office of Justice Services, but is currently on detail to assist the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (Management). For the Bureau, Jason serves as a Supervisory Police Officer who oversees the Law Enforcement operations on the Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation in Fredonia, Ariz.

The couple got engaged at Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, New York in late 2009. This team loves to laugh (mostly at each other) along with spending time with family and friends, watching movies, and traveling to different parts of the United States.

The nuptials will be held at the Vesica Piscis Chapel located in Owasso followed by a reception at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Catoosa.

Both events are invite only, but anyone may view the couple's wedding Web site www.cloudmtlionwedding.brides.com and blogs as well as with sign the guest book. The couple and the event will also be showcased in the *Brides of Oklahoma*, January 2012 issue.

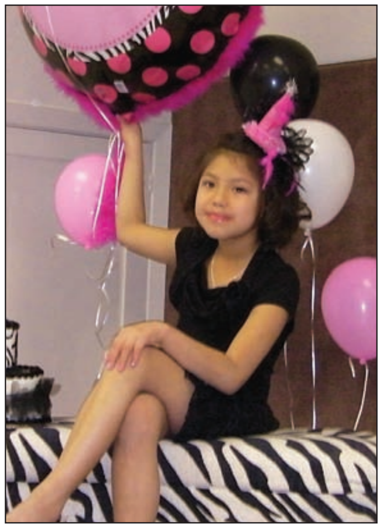
Jason and Stephanie,

We wish you well on all your future endeavors and we are truly blessed to have such great children. We are happy to know that you have found each other to share God's love, to learn from each other, and to set a path for our future generation. Always love and take care of each other no matter what obstacle(s) may come your way. We are very proud of you both.

We love you always and welcome to our family

BIRTHDAYS

MYA HARJO



OKEMAH — Louisa Mya Harjo celebrated her 8th birthday with "Mya's Diva Collection Fashion Show" with a host of family and friends. Her friends, were treated like true models! There was a nail, hair, make-up, and model training station to practice.

Attendees enjoyed food and fashion during the party. Harjo's two-tier zebra print cake was brought to her and friends and family sang 'Happy Birthday.' After candles were blown out, there was a photo shoot of the models.

Models took home purses filled with necklaces, bracelets, rings, nail polish, lip gloss and boas. "Mya's Diva Collection" included collecting gently-used shoes for her fashion show that she will take to local programs for families.

Louisa Mya Harjo is the daughter of Cassandra Thompson and Pahose Harjo. Grandparents are Eugenia "Carol" Tiger, late Boddee Thompson, Dora Taylor and Joe Sulphur.

She is Eco Clan, attends Springfield UMC, and is in second grade at Okemah Elementary.

SETH HARJO

OKEMAH — Seth Tvstvnvkke Harjo celebrated his 11th birthday at Incredible Pizza with friends and family Feb. 20, 2011. His theme was "Black and Yellow."

Friends and family played games for a few hours and watched Seth open his gifts. He got the things he wanted most: a Wii action controller, NBA 2k11, Phone, Fushigi, clothes and more.

He had Black and yellow cupcakes topped with basketballs and one mini cake with a basketball hoop that read 'Happy Birthday Seth #11' He thanked all his friends and family for coming.

Seth is the son of Cassandra Thompson and Pahose Harjo. Grandparents are Eugenia "Carol" Tiger, late Boddee Thompson, Dora Taylor and Joe Sulphur. He is Eco Clan, attends Springfield UMC, and is in fifth grade at Okemah Middle School.

Send us your lifestyle news

To submit announcements, please mail to:

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MUSCOGEE NATION
NEWS

April 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 6

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Letting it all out:

• Documentary takes a realistic spin on removal

Rachel Mayberry
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — A first-time film director with original roots in Okla., will soon be releasing an uncensored, historical documentary based on the tragic Trail of Tears Removal decree by President Andrew Jackson, forcing many members of Muscogee (Creek) and other Native American tribes to walk on-foot across the country, and relocate to Indian Territory during the Manifest Destiny Era.

"What brought my film partner, Juan Diaz, and I to Muscogee (Creek) Nation, was realizing there was a lot of information missing in the public school system regarding the Muscogee and other tribes that were forcibly removed on the historical Trail of Tears to Indian Territory that is now present-day Okla.," film director Erin McCarley said.

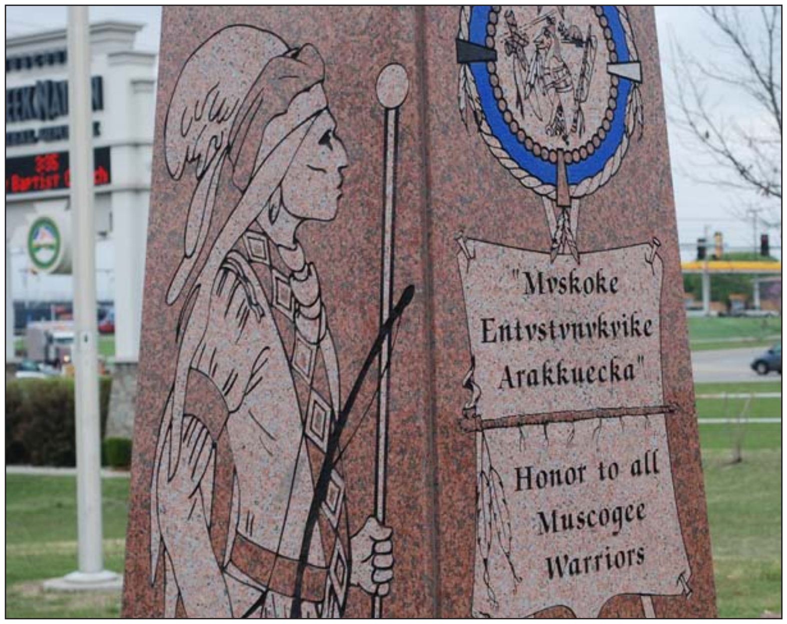
Muscogee Nation is a tribe she chose to film as one of the reenactment scenes, following a female central character to use a story from family history passed down orally through the generations of her family.

"During the centennial year, I decided to come back to Okla., being from Okla., originally, and document," McCarley said.

McCarley said she knew the Centennial celebrations were going to be happening and that they were going to be teaching the same kind of history she learned in public school, regarding land runs and the myth that free land was available all over the state.

"The pioneer and the wild west was the only facet to the story that was taught here in Oklahoma history," McCarley said.

SEE REMOVAL - A4



MNN/*Rachel Mayberry*

Located in Okmulgee, this monument honors Samuel Checote, Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation from 1872-1884. Checote was a child in 1829 when his Muscogee (Creek) family began the trek from their ancestral homeland on the Trail of Tears.

Living Legends nomination deadline set for May 26

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The 37th Annual Creek Festival is seeking nominees for the Living Legends Ceremony that will honor two tribal citizens who have devoted many years to the betterment of the Creek citizens. Several citizens have done great things and have never received any kind of recognition. This ceremony will provide an opportunity to honor our treasures while they are still living.

This event was created by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, during the 2005 Muscogee Nation Festival. The Living Legends Ceremony honors Muscogee (Creek) citizens who have made significant contributions to the Nation.

SEE LEGENDS - A7

Southern Regional Office Grand Opening set for April 29

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

WETUMKA — All Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens are invited to attend the Grand Opening of the Southern Regional Offices located in Wetumka, Okla., at 333 S. Washita, on Friday, April 29 beginning at 10 a.m.

The offices will provide representatives from Citizenship, Election Board, WIC, Housing, Lighthorse, Food Distribution, Social Services, Child Care, Behavioral Health, Reintegration Youth Program, Youth Wellness/Targeted Capacity Expansion Program, National Council, MCN Child Support Enforcement, Tax Commission and the opening of the Wetumka Indian Health Center.

In case of inclement weather, the program will be held in the Wetumka High School Auditorium located directly east of the Southern Regional Office.

For more information, please call (405) 452-1100.

A2 EXECUTIVE

From the Office of Principal Chief

A3 LEGAL

Letter from the Editor

A6 CAPITOL NEWS

MCN School Clothing Program applications available May 2

A7 CAPITOL NEWS

Waggnor wins 'Resolution Solution' weight loss challenge

A8 AD

Southern Regional Office Grand Opening

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YOUR PRESENCE WILL BE AN HONOR AS WE CELEBRATE THIS GREAT EVENT. THE MCN SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 333 S. WASHITA, IN WETUMKA, OKLA. IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, THE PROGRAM WILL BE HELD IN THE WETUMKA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM LOCATED DIRECTLY EAST OF THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (405) 452-1100.

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

From the Office of Principal Chief

A.D. Ellis
MCN Principal Chief

OKMULGEE — As Principal Chief, I'd like to respond to some comments made in Speaker Barnett's letter to the editor, dated March 1, 2011 and an interview with Sam Alexander entitled "Second Speaker Speaks Out".

Speaker Roger Barnett says that Tribal Court Judge was stripped of his authority. Judge Moore is still hearing cases involving Speaker Barnett and others where each were fined $2,500 for contempt of court. Under the District Court's order, I notified the Controller to collect the fines through payroll deduction until paid in full. The fines have been paid in full. Mr. Barnett also said that I presented a $20 million deficit budget. The TRUTH is that the funding was never short and his comment is just another part of a power play by certain National Council members. The entire 2011 budget is covered by available money that is currently held in our tribal treasury. Even though the Permanent Fund now has a total of $199 million dollars it was never intended to be used for the 2011 budget. I would urge council members and concerned tribal citizens to read Supreme Court Order 06-07, Ellis vs. National Council. It should answer most of your questions about the budget and powers of both branches of government.

Barnett also stated that the Constitution of Muscogee Nation gives authority to the National Council to establish inferior courts and confirm judges. The National Council does not have the authority to demolish any court system once they are established nor does the National Council have authority to appoint and confirm any judge.

Barnett went on to say, Chief Ellis has failed or refused to offer any nomination for judges. I submitted Attorney Larry Oliver, Attorney Monte Deer, and Judge Patrick Moore. That is three nominations. I have a lot of respect for all elected officials of our nation and have served in all elected positions.

In response to the article by Sam Alexander entitled, Second Speaker speaks out, an article in the last edition of the MNN. Sam speaks of his professional background and goes on to say, the current Principal Chief lacks character and professional experience. Check the Oklahoma Accountancy Board's Case #1812, issued 2/26/10, you'll see that Sam Alexander was fined $2,500 plus attorney's fees of $593.04 for a disciplinary action, which the board states is very serious in nature. Who really has character?

Alexander also said that $20 million was stolen from these communities. The Tribal Court's decision returned this money to the tribal treasury because this money belongs to ALL Creek Citizens. This was the right thing to do. Judge Moore ruled exactly what any HONEST Judge would do, even though he realized it was a very unpopular thing to do according to the National Council.

Rep. Alexander went on to say, he lost track of the number of lawsuits that have been filed. Twelve lawsuits, Sam. The number is 12. All 12 have been ruled on in favor of the Principal Chief. If our constitution had not been violated, I wouldn't have had any reason to file any lawsuits.

The Supreme Court also acted as it should have by installing Judge Moore to an extended term. The Constitution states, a Supreme Court order shall be in writing and shall be final. I, myself, obey that constitutional statement.

Next, I terminated the former Attorney General Roger Wiley because he refused to take action to stop the corruption within Trade & Commerce along with other matters I can not reveal. The so-called illegal court system along with the Supreme Court's Federal Investigation should not have been mentioned by Mr. Alexander. That was a very damaging statement. I am certain that the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's offices never make their investigations public to anyone - least of all a National Council member.

The new court system Mr. Alexander mentions abolishing the District Court (in its entirety) and replaces it with three separate courts, has been declared UNCONSTITUTIONAL just as most legislation Alexander sponsors is unconstitutional. Sam calls the Attorney General and the Lighthorse Police "a bunch of outlaws." Sam also makes accusations of chaos and conspiracy being committed by myself, the Attorney General, the Lighthorse Police and the Judicial Branch.

Chief Beaver once said, while we were in Washington D.C., "We used to fight with weapons - now we fight with lawyers and briefcases." This is a price we pay for being a sovereign nation. I would urge the National Council to stop disobeying our constitution and get back to representing the CITIZENS of our Nation.

Please Sam run for Chief. When and if you become Principal Chief you can do your thing. Oh, that's right, you ran for Chief along with Bill Fife and both of you got skunked in the PRIMARY by me, a farmer and former truck driver, the person you refer to who has no character.

Mvto!
A.D. Ellis

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Creek-Seminole Language

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Steve Randall
(918) 704-3738
Wiyo Publishing Company

Letters to the Editor

Citizen questions validity of court system

PARADISE, Calif., — I am an enrolled member of the Nation and am a former Mcintosh District Representative to the National Council. Also, I was one of the persons appointed by the then National Council as a judge in a Interim Tribunal Court. Much like how the tribe went through some difficult times during 1980, 81, 82.

I was also an appointed member of the Tribes Health Care System.

I authored the legislation and the National Council approved which created the Smoke Shop in Eufaula and later the National Council approved an appropriation bill which built the Eufaula Indian Community Center and allowed them to open a successful bingo operation. The Eufaula Indian Community agreed to pay to the Nation 50 percent of the profit derived from those operations, which amounted to a very large sum of money which was returned to the tribe.

Even though I no longer live within the political boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation I try to stay aware of the condition of the Nation through information provided by the *Muscogee Nation News*.

It is with deep regret that the Nation is, at this time in such conflict.

It appears that the nation, much like the U.S. federal government, is being dictated to by the court system.

It appears that the Principal Chief through the court system has set himself up as a dictator.

I successfully filed suit against a former chief for not complying with tribal ordinances.

During that trial, the present District court judge informed and ordered the then Chief that he must comply with lawfully passed ordinances. Also, all elected and appointed officers take the oath of office in which they swear to uphold provisions of the tribal Constitution.

I am also concerned that the Nation may have a $20 million deficit.

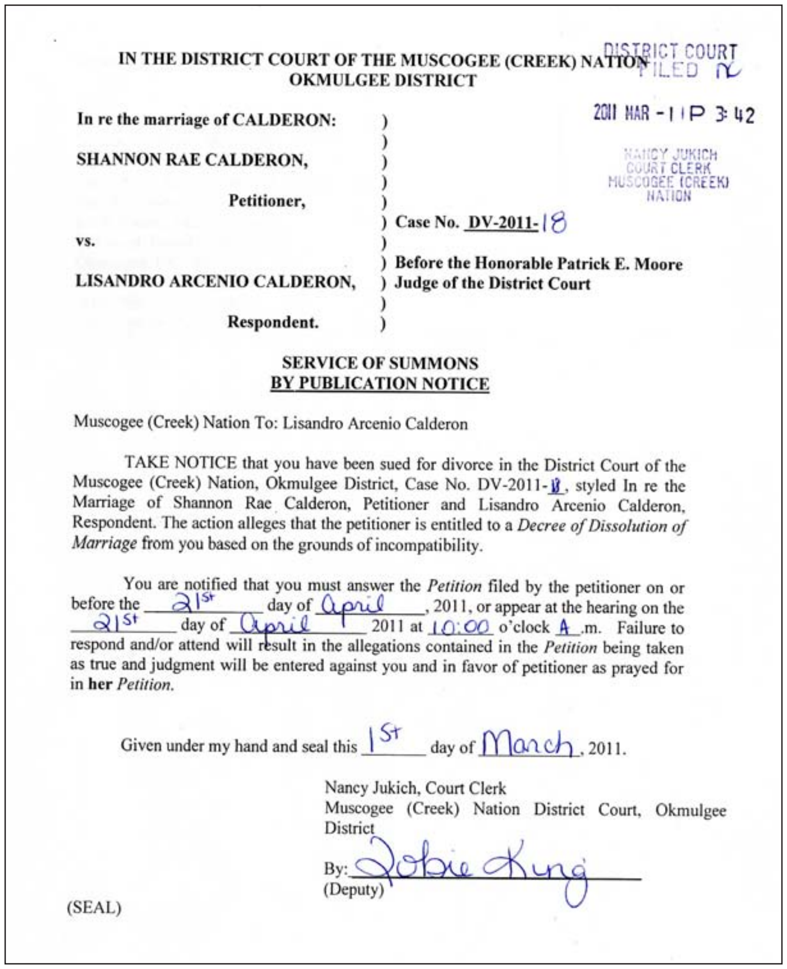
Where is the transparency in tribal government when the judge of the district court has held the National Council in contempt for holding budget hearings and passing laws.

It is "truthfully" absurd that the judge of the District Court would hold the National Council in contempt for attempting to do their duty, as prescribed by the Nation's Constitution. The National Council is the only authority that can authorize the expenditure of tribal funds.

Of course it is the duty of the Principal Chief to present the annual budget to the National council for approval.

How can the National Council reasonably be expected to approve any budget presented to them without it being investigated?

Also, there are provisions in the constitution allowing the National Council to establish inferior courts. That has been done in the past. An interim tribunal court was established by the National Council. I know this to be a fact because I was appointed as one of the judges of that court.



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 MAR -1 P 3:42
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the marriage of CALDERON:)
)
SHANNON RAE CALDERON,)
)
Petitioner,)
) Case No. DV-2011-18
vs.)
) Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
LISANDRO ARCENIO CALDERON,) Judge of the District Court
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Lisandro Arcenio Calderon

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2011-18, styled In re the Marriage of Shannon Rae Calderon, Petitioner and Lisandro Arcenio Calderon, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 21st day of April, 2011, or appear at the hearing on the 21st day of April 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in **her** *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 1st day of March, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District
By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

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Okmulgee, OK 74447
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Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko!

At the end of last month, a few of the Communications Department staff had the opportunity to visit my alma mater for the "New Media in Indian Country: New Ways of Storytelling" Conference at the University of Oklahoma Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication held Thursday, March 30. The sessions were held in a new, state-of-the-art wing of the building, which was not there when I was in school (this made me feel extremely old).

I always feel blessed when I can network with other media practitioners in Indian country and learn something from them. Among the line-up was our own Jason Salsman, cohost of the only Native cable network television program, Native News Today.

To top off the day, Director of Federal Communications Commission Native Public Media Tribal Resource Center on Broadband and Muscogee (Creek) citizen Geoffrey Blackwell brought to light the fact that Indian Country is notoriously behind the rest of the world where technology and access to broadband are concerned.

This gives me the feeling our job of sharing the news through the print medium is even more important now than ever, however, I am looking forward to utilizing new technology and ultimately increasing timeliness, balance and creativity in the future.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Removal

Continued from A1

“I knew that the Centennial year would be a good time to come back and tell a different side of the story.”

McCarley said there was a group of inter-tribal Native Americans that came together as a coalition to tell their side of the story and resist the ways that state history was presented within the schools.

“They called themselves S.P.I.R.I.T., Society to Protect Indigenous Rights and Indigenous Traditions,” McCarley said. “Involvement with this is how the documentary was started.”

McCarley said she has written a few articles, but most of the topics about this subject have been funneled into the film.

“I’m kind of using the film as my big statement to address these same subjects,” McCarley said.

McCarley said her telling the story of Oklahoma history from a Native American perspective is what brings she and Diaz to the Creek Nation.

“We realize that there was a lot of history that had never been represented in the public school system,” McCarley said. “For example, we all learned about the Cherokee tribe on the Trail of Tears to some extent or small degree, but we didn’t learn about all the other nations that were removed to Indian Territory.”

McCarley said one of the things her team decided would be really important with this documentary was to film a few historical reenactments of different stories and events that occurred in Indian Territory before it was the State of Oklahoma, to show the very rich history this area has.

“We have a character we are following for the film who is Creek, and whose family had an experience on the removals we noticed was very poignant and harrowing,” McCarley said. “That story, and oral history had been passed down generation to generation in her family and she was still living with the inter-generational trauma of that story.”

McCarley thought it would be appropriate to use a particular Muscogee (Creek) elder woman’s story as a historical vignette to reenact the story, including it in the film as part of Oklahoma’s tapestry of events that lead to statehood.

“Our character’s mother and grandmother both carried the story, and now she carries it on as well,” McCarley said. “The line was passed down through the female side and seems to me like the women have been sort of the story-tellers and the keepers of oral tradition.”

McCarley said she’s not sure if that is typical of Creek families or if there’s any pattern, but in the woman’s family that was the case.

“Because historical reenactments are so expensive—they require props and locations and costumes and food—we’re trying to pick just a few, in knowing that there’s no way we can represent by any stretch, the vast diversity of tribal stories that make up the state’s history,” McCarley said.

McCarley said historical vignettes will also be filmed for the Ponca and Euchee tribes.

“There are so many nations here, and that’s what I think is so incredible,” McCarley said. “Oklahoma headquarters 39 tribes and there’s probably another few dozen that live here even though they’re not federally-recognized; it’s amazing the wealth of national heritage that is here in this state,” McCarley said.

McCarley said a lot of the knowledge she’s gained has not only come from the research of this film, but also a pivotal experience in taking classes for undergraduate communication at the University of Oregon.

“I had a college class called ‘Ethnic Studies’ where we were learning about all kinds of non-white history in the forming of the United States of America, from the Chinese railroads to a Native American perspective on U.S. History,” McCarley said. “It was in that class my teacher was the daughter of African-American and Seminole parents.”

McCarley said her instructor was doing a chapter on land runs in Okla.

“This was a topic that was near and dear to my heart growing up, because I learned that my family came to Okla., in a land run,” McCarley said. “My European ancestors had actually come to a piece of land called the Cherokee Strip in the 1890s and staked land in that land run.”

McCarley said growing up in school, her classes would reenact land runs they were taught provided free land.

“Of course we were never told that this land was actually Indian Territory,” McCarley said.

It was in this particular class the Seminole professor one day said, “While these white settlers were coming in on wagons and horseback, taking the best parts of our land, our people were just standing there with their chins on the ground wondering what in the world was going on.”

McCarley said that was the first time she heard the land was actually someone else’s before it belonged to her ancestors and the settlers.

“When I heard that, I was floored, and it totally disrupted my world view,” McCarley said. “It was so disturbing, I had to start researching and figure out what I missed and where I had been led astray.”

McCarley said when the Centennial happened and her team saw the propaganda approach was the same as that of public education in the state, she decided to go back to Okla., and tell a different story.

“It felt like this was the time because everything was so polarized,” McCarley said. “I started researching throughout 2007-2009 and when we decided to do this historical reenactment of the Creek Removal, my partner took on a major research portion.”

McCarley said her ancestors that took land in the land run in Okla. had actually taken it in the Cherokee Strip.

“My grandparents had actually grown up in a town called Cherokee, Okla., in the Northwest part of the state, named after people they took the land from,” McCarley said. “I never knew that growing up, of course, but I have learned a little bit about the Cherokees through the years, and wish I knew more,” she continued.

Juan Diaz, film co-producer, said right now he is focused on producing this one reenactment which is this personal story that happened during the removal of the Creeks in 1836.

“When we decided to do this one particular vignette, we knew there had been several film depictions of the Trail of Tears, but all we had seen were of the Cherokee tribe,” Diaz said.

Diaz said he spent the last few years researching texts and firsthand written accounts from people who were on the trail, some U.S. soldiers, some civilians.

“There is a book by Grant Foreman about the removals and stories from members of the five civilized tribes,” Diaz said. “There are chapters that cover the Creek Nation removal, that seem like you’re just reading people’s diaries who were there, and we found really fascinating to read.”

Diaz said overall, the research has been speaking with elders, learning about their own personal founding stories.

“I kind of get an inside view of Okla., seeing what the removals were from the Indian perspective and from the perspective of people in the Creek Nation.”

Diaz said he would ensure the period dress is accurate, and that all the details are solid, so the audience can feel like they are actually there, not just watching a movie or a TV show about the Trail of Tears.

“We are really just kind of putting them in that situation, letting the audience fend for themselves,” Diaz said. “This is what everything was like, this is what it felt like, and yes, it was very uncomfortable, because it’s not a happy story.”

Diaz said he believes very few people know that the Creek Nation was removed to Okla.

“It’s something that ought to be widely known,” Diaz said. “Anyone who grows up in America has gotten some kind of American history, but it’s just not a major story outside of Okla., from people I have come across.”

Diaz said it’s really about bringing more stories in and filling a lot of holes and gaps including clothing, blankets and belongings.

“In some ways, the television removals appear pretty tame,” Diaz said. “They look like bad experiences, but they don’t even come close to depicting the horror that we have read about when we research the Creek removals.”

Diaz said the film will not be made for television; however, to leave room for the goal of raw truth and reality in telling the story.

“It would get censored for television and that’s one of the things we are trying to do differently,” Diaz said. “It’s a very scary and daunting silence to break.”

Diaz said he and McCarley have read a lot of stories and firsthand accounts, but from the people interviewed as a whole, they haven’t heard a story as traumatic as the one they are depicting.

“I know some people have said that we don’t know our stories any more because our great-grandparents just didn’t want to talk about it, so I have a certain sense that some of the stories have been lost,” Diaz said.

McCarley said the documentary portion of the film has already been wrapped up and completed, with filming for the reenactment vignette portion to begin this Sept., including the Muscogee (Creek) removal.

“People need to see their histories represented accurately and honestly and that’s one small story out of millions of stories that happened, but all we can do is try to depict it the way it happened, as much as we can, and the best that we can,” McCarley said.

McCarley and Diaz plan to apply for grants and release the finished film to accredited film festivals both nationally and internationally.

For more information, please contact muscogeetrail@gmail.com, or visit the Facebook fan page and Web site, at Muscogeetrail.com

Important information about the $3.4 billion Indian Trust Settlement

For current or former IIM account holders, Owners of land held in trust or restricted status, or their heirs

There is a proposed Settlement in *Cobell v. Salazar,* a class action lawsuit about individual Indian land held in trust by the federal government. This notice is just a summary. For details, call the toll-free number or visit the website listed below.

The lawsuit claims that the federal government violated its duties by (a) mismanaging trust funds/assets, (b) improperly accounting for those funds, and (c) mismanaging trust land/assets. The trust funds include money collected from farming and grazing leases, timber sales, mining, and oil and gas production from land owned by American Indians/Alaska Natives.

If you are included in the Settlement, your rights will be affected. To object to the Settlement, to comment on it, or to exclude yourself, you should get a detailed notice at www.IndianTrust.com or by calling 1-800-961-6109.

Can I get money?

There are two groups or "Classes" in the Settlement eligible for payment. Each Class includes individual IIM account holders or owners of land held in trust or restricted status who were alive on September 30, 2009.

Historical Accounting Class Members

- Had an open individual Indian Money account ("IIM") anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, **and**
- The account had at least one cash transaction.
- Includes estates of account holders who died as of September 30, 2009, if the IIM account was still open on that date.

Trust Administration Class Members

- Had an IIM account recorded in currently available data in federal government systems any time from approximately 1985 to September 30, 2009, **or**
- Owned trust land or land in restricted status as of September 30, 2009.
- Includes estates of landowners who died as of September 30, 2009 where the trust interests were in probate as of that date. This means you have asked a court to transfer ownership of the deceased landowner's property.

An individual may be included in one or both Classes.

What does the Settlement provide?

- A $1.5 billion fund to pay those included in the Classes.
- A $1.9 billion fund to buy small interests in trust or restricted land owned by many people.
- Up to $60 million to fund scholarships to improve access to higher education for Indian youth.
- A government commitment to reform the Indian trust management and accounting system.

How much can I get?

- Historical Accounting Class Members will each get $1,000.
- Trust Administration Class Members will get at least $500.
- If you own a small parcel of land with many other people, the federal government may ask you to sell it. You will be offered fair market value. If you sell your land it will be returned to tribal control.

If you believe you are a member of either Class and are not receiving IIM account statements, you will need to call the toll-free number or visit the website to register.

What are my other rights?

- If you wish to keep your right to sue the federal government about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **April 20, 2011**.
- If you stay in the Settlement you can object to or comment on it by **April 20, 2011**. The detailed notice explains how to exclude yourself or object/comment.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia will hold a hearing on June 20, 2011, to consider whether to approve the Settlement. It will also consider a request for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses in the amount of $99.9 million. However, Class Counsel has fee agreements that would pay them 14.75% of the funds created for the Classes, which could result in an award of $223 million. The Court may award more or less than these amounts based on controlling law. If approved, these payments and related costs will come out of the Settlement funds available for payment to Class Members.

If you wish, you or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost. For more information, call or go to the website shown below or write to Indian Trust Settlement, P.O. Box 9577, Dublin, OH 43017-4877.

For more Information: 1-800-961-6109 www.IndianTrust.com

MCN School Clothing Program applications available May 2

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, will be accepting applications for school clothing beginning Monday, May 2, 2011. Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of October 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek Citizen students no matter where you live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program consist of:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least 3 years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be 4 years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade. All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.
- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200.00. (Example: If you received $400.00 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350.00, you will be eligible to receive $200.00.) Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.00.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social

Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center.
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center.
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447. Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

Social Security adopts electronic payments

Media Release
MCN Social Security Asst. Program

OKMULGEE — According to the Okmulgee Social Security office, The U.S. Department of the Treasury has issued a final rule to extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to all Americans receiving Social Security and other federal benefit and non-tax payments.

Under the rule, anyone applying for benefits on or after May 1, 2011 will receive payments electronically while those already receiving paper checks will need to switch to direct deposit by March 1, 2013.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury will allow benefits to be paid by paper check to individuals who state they meet one of the following exemptions: age 90 or older; have a mental impairment, or live in a remote area of the country.

Treasury is responsible for obtaining notarized documentation from the individual and making the exemption decision.

"Eight in 10 federal benefit recipients already use direct deposit, and now millions of additional retirees, veterans and other Americans will also receive their money in the safest, most reliable way—electronically," said Treasury Fiscal Assistant Secretary Richard L. Gregg.

"This important change will provide significant savings to American taxpayers who will no longer incur the annual $120 million price tag associated with paper checks and will save Social Security $1 billion over the next 10 years."

To learn more about electronic payments or to sign up, please visit www.GoDirect.org

For questions regarding Social Security benefits, individuals may contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Security Assistance Program at (918) 549-2475 or a local Social Security office.

MCN Division of Health sponsors focus group

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for people to volunteer their time to participate in a focus group which will concentrate on patient experiences within Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers.

Parties interested participating in the focus group regarding Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers may contact Anne Edwards, Patient Advocacy Coordinator at (918) 756-3334 ext. 287, call 1-877-579-4911 or e-mail anne.edwards@creekhealth.org

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The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

Waggnor wins "Resolution Solution Weight Loss Challenge"

MCN/*Mellissa Culley*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Personnel sponsored the "Resolution Solution Weight Loss Challenge," in Jan. MCN employee B.J. Waggnor was the winner with a total weight loss of 26.4 lbs., and a percentage loss of 12.01. Waggnor was awarded a $367 prize for his effort.

Legends

Continued from A1

The committee will consist of the Principal Chief, Second Chief, Speaker of the National Council, all Creek Nation Directors, the Executive Director and the Judicial Branch Judge. All committee members must also be enrolled Creek citizens.

Nominees must meet the following qualifications:

- Must be a Creek citizen
- Must be at least 55 years of age and
- Must have devoted many years to the betterment of the Creek people or Creek Nation government, etc. All areas will be considered including artist, craftsmen, political people, educational people, ceremonial/religious leaders or any contribution above and beyond the call-of-duty.

The committee will select two individuals from submitted nominees and honor them during the Chief's State of the Nation Address on Friday, June 24th at 5:30 p.m. in the New Multi-Purpose Bldg located at the Claude Cox Omniplex. All nominations must be submitted to the Office of the Principal Chief at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Deadline: 5 PM, Friday, May 26, 2011.

For more information please contact Rachael Sumka at (918) 732-7604 or Shelby Rex at (918) 732-7605.

Grand Opening

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Southern Regional Office
April 29, 2011 – 10 a.m.

Services Available at this Office Include:

- Head Start
- SIPs Plant
- Reintegration Youth Program
- National Council
- MCN Child Support Enforcement
- Tax Commission
- Wetumka Indian Health Center
- Youth Wellness / Targeted Capacity Expansion Program
- Citizenship
- Election Board
- WIC
- Housing
- Lighthorse
- Food Distribution
- Social Services
- Child Care
- Behavioral Health

Your presence will be an honor as we celebrate this great event. The MCN Southern Regional Office is located at 333 S. Washita, in Wetumka, Okla. In case of inclement weather, the program will be held in the Wetumka High School Auditorium located directly East of the Southern Regional Office. For more information call (405) 452-1100.

FEATURES

SECTION B

April 1, 2011 edition

CMN students showcase talent

• Cedar Flute Recital features hand-made instruments

MNN/Rachel Mayberry

Pictured above are College of the Muscogee Nation instructors Norma Marshall (left) and Nelson Harjo (second from the left) with students who performed at a cedar flute recital this past February in the main entrance area to the college, using flutes they had also made themselves in Harjo's class.

Head Start now accepting applications

Media Release
MCN Head Start

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application.

All races and ethnicities may apply. Interested applicants should begin the application process now, as it does take some time to complete.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

April is Child Abuse Awareness Month

Media Release
MCN Children and Family Services

OKMULGEE —The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration supports April as Child Abuse Awareness Month. This month is set aside to bring awareness about child abuse and neglect and to also encourage the community to support this cause.

The Children and Family Services Administration Indian Child Welfare program provides services to abused and neglected Muscogee (Creek) children and their families. There are currently 51 children in Muscogee (Creek) Nation custody and 189 Muscogee (Creek) children in Oklahoma State custody. These children are currently in foster/adopt homes or shelters.

The Indian Child Welfare program also has a foster care and adoption program. There is an extreme need for more foster care/adoptive homes in this area and across the state. There are currently 37 foster/adopt homes certified through Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This number of homes is not adequate to house all the children in custody.

The whole community has a responsibility to report abuse and neglect. With education and awareness, everyone will become more liable to report and will no longer allow victimization.

To report suspected abuse, neglect, or to get information on the Foster Care/Adoption Program please call (918) 732-7869, 1-800-521-5432 or Oklahoma State DHS office at (918) 752-2000 or 1-800-522-3511.

Sexual Assault Awareness Walk set for April 27

Media Release
MCN Family Violence Prevention

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program and the Okmulgee County Family Resource Center will sponsor the third annual Sexual Assault Awareness Walk on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 beginning at 10 a.m., at the Mound Building.

A presentation will begin at 10:30 a.m., with the walk following.

Participants are asked to donate hygiene and paper products, diapers, wipes, new towels and or bedding, ect., which will be donated to the local resource center. A limited number of T-shirts will be available.

For more information, please contact Tina Qualls at (918) 732-7869.

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country: *Tasahce-Rakko,* "Big Spring"

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

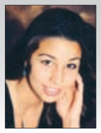
Butler Creek celebrates 100 years

B5 PEOPLE

Obituary: Shaunday Little

B7 PEOPLE

Birthday: Ginavee Mowles



B8 AD

Creek Nation Casino-Muskogee

Mvskoke Country: *Tasahce-Rakko,* "Big Spring"

by James Treat

The dominant culture in North America tends to make a big deal out of the vernal equinox, around March 20, when night and day are about equal in length. Among those who define seasonal change according to strictly astronomical criteria, this marks the beginning of spring—a welcome relief from the cold and dreary conditions of a temperate-zone winter.

Of course, there are other ways to conceptualize the seasons. In Mvskoke country, you may know, we're already a month into *tasahcē*, "spring," the third of three seasons in the ancient Mvskoke calendar. The vernal equinox comes at the transition from *Tasahcuce*, "Little Spring," to *Tasahce-Rakko*, "Big Spring," which are the first two months of this four-month season.

Thanks to *cokv-walv* Mvskoke, we get an extra month of spring! Please try not to brag in the presence of your non-Mvskoke neighbors.

Last month's column featured writings by Alexander Posey, the renowned journalist, poet, and humorist. Complementing his affection for birds, flowers are another favored topic of Posey's nature poetry.

In his poem "For Me," for example, the Mvskoke bard celebrates a personal relationship with the environing world: "The blue of the sky and the green branches waving— / The sweet invitation of nature to rest / Seem to satisfy all of the soul's eager craving / To live in a land by eternal spring blest." It is the heyday of flowering plants, a time for new growth in every domain. "The mountain, the river, each flower, each tree," this stanza concludes, "Had a love-song to sing and all, all was for me!"

Although some critics would dismiss these lyrical sentiments as garden-variety romanticism, Mvskoke people have always personalized their connection to the natural environment.

Think of our various clans, which express a fundamental sense of kinship: *Kaccvlke*, "Tiger Clan" (literally, "Tiger People"); *Fuswvlke*, "Bird Clan"; *Vhvlvkvlke*, "Sweet Potato Clan"; and *Hotvlkvlke*, "Wind Clan," to name just a few. Or consider the many animal dances still enjoyed at our ceremonial grounds, including *Yvnvsv-Pvnkv,* "Buffalo Dance"; *Setahvyv-Pvnkv,* "Feather Dance"; *Cetto-Pvnkv*, "Snake Dance"; and *Ēsapv-Pvnkv*, "Gar Dance."

This indigenous personalism is also evident in modern surnames and in the playful monikers given to individuals by family and friends. Natural names are a venerable tradition in Mvskoke country, one sometimes extended even to transient guests.

In April of 1774, the Alachua Seminoles were visited by William Bartram, an Anglo-American naturalist from Philadelphia. Bartram's specialty was botany, the study of "the tribes of plants and trees," and he particularly liked tracking down native flora in bloom.

Arriving on the outskirts of Cuscowilla, Bartram and his party were met by "the women and children," who "saluted us with cheerfulness and complaisance," he noted in his journal. "We were welcomed to the town, and conducted by the young men and maidens to the chief's house," where Ahaya—called "Cowkeeper" by the colonists—"attended by several ancient men, came to us, and in a very free and sociable manner, shook our hands, or rather arms."

After the requisite formalities of Mvskoke hospitality, the *mēkko* "was then informed what the nature of my errand was, and he received me with complaisance, giving me unlimited permission to travel over the country for the purpose of collecting flowers, medicinal plants, etc." Ahaya also dubbed him "Puc-Puggy" (*pvkpvkē*, "flower," though the word has undergone subtle changes in both pronunciation and meaning since the eighteenth century; in modern Mvskoke, "flower" is *pakpvkuce*). This gesture was probably at least partly in jest, and Bartram only compounded the irony by construing his new nickname as "the flower hunter," perhaps one of the earliest examples of playing Indian in American history.

The following year, while travelling through the Mvskoke heartland, Bartram learned more about their agricultural practices. This communal tradition was surely as beautiful as any fragrant flower:

"In the spring, when the season arrives, all the citizens, as one family, prepare the ground and begin to plant, commencing at one end or the other, as convenience may direct for the general good, and so continue on until finished; and when the young plants arise and require culture, they dress and husband them until the crops are ripe. . . . The design of the common granary is for the wisest and best purposes, with respect to their people, i.e., a store or resource to repair to in cases of necessity. Thus when a family's private stores fall short, in cases of accident or otherwise, they are entitled to assistance and supply from the public granary."

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments, as well as your suggestions. You can reach me by e-mail at treaty@illinois.edu

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Family Language Camp to be offered Summer 2011

Media Release
MCN Language Program

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Language Program has hosted a Language Camp for the past four years for students interested in learning the language as well as learning how to make traditional arts and crafts.

The four-day event is packed with approximately 20 hours of language, hands-on lessons in making traditional arts and crafts, as well as fun-filled activities.

At the end of camp, the pride in the students' faces shows a little more knowledge of their identity and what it means to be Mvskoke. The uncertainty is how much of what they have learned remains with them and do they continue practicing when they return home.

Learning and maintaining a language involves family effort conversing in the language on a daily basis. Experience has proven that children and teens exhibit far more interest in developing their language skills when their parents are also engaged in the language acquisition process. That is why this year the Language Program will be hosting a Family Language Camp.

The Mvskoke Language Program invites families ages five years and older, including the parent(s), to participate in this year's Summer Family Language Camp. This year the theme for the camp is "Traditional Stompdance." Parents and children will share and experience a slice of Mvskoke life by learning the language, traditional arts and crafts, and mannerism associated with traditional stompdance.

If you and your family are serious about learning the Mvskoke language and culture, we invite you to attend this year's camp.

The language camp will once again be held at Western Hills in Wagoner, Okla., June 13-16, 2011.

Applications will be available on-line at the official Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web site at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/ or may be picked up at the Mvskoke Language Program in the Human Development Building on the MCN tribal complex.

Applications must be completed and returned to the Mvskoke Language Program no later than May 15, 2011, to allow time for final preparations for the camp.

The camp will be limited to 12 families, therefore, is is important for interested participants to submit application materials as soon as possible.

Guidelines for the camp are as follows:

- Must be a family composition of 4-6 household members,
- Must have a Muscogee (Creek) citizenship card,
- Must be accompanied by at least one parent or guardian who lives in the same household,
- Parent(s) or guardian will have full responsibility for their children,
- Parent(s) or guardian will participate with their children in all the lessons and activities.

Program Manager Kathleen Coachman encouraged all interested families to participate in these camps, further their efforts to learn the language and learn more about the Mvskoke culture.

"I look forward to seeing you at this year's camp. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at the Language Program at (918) 732-7641 or Mona (Koko) Lowe at (918) 732-7724," Coachman said.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Springfield annual Memorial Gospel Singing

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church will host their annual Memorial Gospel Singing on May 29 beginning at 7 p.m.

Rev. David Little will be the emcee and concessions will be available.

Butler Creek celebrates 100th anniversary

MUSKOGEE — Butler Creek Baptist Church will be holding their 100-year Anniversary Celebration Sunday,, April 10, 2011, beginning at 11 a.m.

Guest Speakers will be Rev. Washington and Rev. Allison Phillips. Lunch will be served and church singing will take place in the afternoon. Guests are asked to bring lawn chairs. Each church will be given the opportunity to give a devotional after lunch.

For more information, contact Pastor Norman Daniel at (918) 682-9645.

NAWS Tike Chapman Memorial Golf Tournament

CATOOSA—The Native American Warriors Society is holding their first annual SGT Tike Chapman Memorial Golf Challenge to help support Native American troops Saturday, July 30 at the Cherokee Hills Golf Club.

Registration begins at 7 a.m., and Shotgun Start begins at 8 a.m. There will be a 4-person scramble. Hole and team sponsorships are available for $125 for an individual and $400 for teams.

Entry fee includes: green fees, cart fees, range balls, lunch, goodie bags, Return Play Foursome and a discount card from Cherokee Hills. Prize awards will be for: first place team, second place team, longest drive (individual) and closest to the pin (individual).

For more information, contact Dwayne or Yvonne Cahwee at (918) 946-8024 or visit http://nawtulsa.angelfire.com/okla/

Cherokee Hills Golf Club is located at 777 W. Cherokee St., in Catoosa, Okla.

Thunder Road Theater Company Benefit Dinner And Craft Sale

TULSA — To raise money for its upcoming season, Thunder Road Theater Company is holding a Traditional Native American dinner and arts and crafts sale.

The event will take place Saturday, May 7 at the Tulsa Creek Indian community center,8611 South Union Avenue. (Take the 81st St. exit off Highway 75 and turn south on

Union. TCIC is located on the east side of the road).

The dinner is being cooked by the Tiger family from Pecan Grove. $6.00 a plate includes a choice of chicken, salt meat, pork chops, with beans, rice, corn soup, biscuit or frybread, tea, or coffee, pie or cake. Soda, sofke and blue bread will be sold separately and takeout is available. Thunder Road Theater Company's summer project is a collectively created Muscogee language play, to be followed by a main stage play in the fall.

For more information about Thunder Road Theater Company and the dinner, visit web.me.com/thunderroadtheater or contact Deena Tiger at 918-630-0067.

Creek Citizen Speak Out Meeting

GLENPOOL — The next Creek Citizen Speak Out meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2011, from 1:30-4:30 p.m., at the Glenpool Smokeshop located at 13839 S. Casper, just past the traffic light on the East side of the Hwy. 75.

Organizers have set up an e-mail address for citizens to write in their concern/issues: creekspeakout@yahoo.com . We have also received donations to start up a web site. Thus far, we have not received any mail.

The meeting will provide a recap on all the concerns received from the previous meetings.

For more information, please contact Sandi Golden at (918) 623-6437.

Restoring Harmony Powwow 2011

TULSA — The Tulsa Indian Community Advisory Team (TICAT) presents its 2011 Restoring Harmony Powwow on Saturday, April 30, 2011, at the Westside YMCA, 5400 S. Olympia Ave., Tulsa. The theme for this year's powwow is "Nourishing the Roots of Resilience."

The powwow is cosponsored by Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa, Osage Nation Counseling Center, and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Protecting the Future-Children's Mental Health Initiative.

The Restoring Harmony Powwow is an event designed to celebrate National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day with the goal of educating our community about children's mental health issues and increasing access to available services. There will be activities available for all ages, including an awareness hike, dance specials (to honor our youth and elders), educational and vendor booths, and youth speak outs.

All organizations, agencies, and individuals that provide support for the Powwow will be recognized on event flyers and through emcee announcements. For information on providing support to the powwow, contact Tim Shadlow at (918) 382-2217 or tshadlow@ihcrc.org.

Vendor booth spaces will also be available. Spaces are approximately 10-feet by 10-feet, and renters must provide tables, chairs, display fixtures, and lighting. For information on space rental, contact Michael Bargas at (918) 382-2207 or mbargas@ihcrc.org.

Volunteers are needed for everything from dancer registration and vendor coordination to parking lot attendants and meal servers. To volunteer, contact Hannah Watah at (918) 382-2200 or hwatah@ihcrc.org

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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2011 Festival sign-ups now available

Muscogee Nation
Festival
37th annual
2011
Celebrate Life!

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

Sign-ups for both slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball are now available on-line and through the Tourism & Recreation Office.

Commemorative Festival 2011 mugs in four designs are available for purchase for $8 each as well as raffle tickets to win a 2011 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200 Low. Tickets for the motorcycle are available for $5 each or five for $20. The drawing is open to everyone and winner will be announced and awarded on Saturday, June 25, 2011 after 6 p.m. Participants need not be present to win.

Sponsorships are still available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

Art Under the Oaks set for April 16-17 in Muskogee

Media Release
Five Civilized Tribes Museum

MUSKOGEE — Enjoy a month of art and culture at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum in Muskogee. Beginning with the Cultural Art Show, opening on April 3, the museum celebrates the unique style of the Five Tribes – Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole. This festive art show features textiles, pottery, basketry, gourds, knapping and jewelry all reflecting the culture and history of the Five Tribes. "Every year I am amazed at the creative talents of this group of artists. It is a beautiful show with lots of texture and color," said Mary Robinson, Director.

The Five Civilized Tribes Museum annual Art Under the Oaks Market and Festival will be held the weekend of April 16th and 17th on museum grounds. Each year, in conjunction with the Muskogee Azalea Festival, the museum hosts a cultural festival reflecting the culture, heritage and traditions of the Five Tribes removed from their homelands in the 1830s to Indian Territory.

Entertainment will be provided throughout the weekend. Tommy Wildcat, Cherokee, will open the festival with his original flute music.

Will Hill, Muscogee (Creek) and Jehnean Washington, Seminole, Euchee, Shoshone, will give two storytelling performance on Saturday, April 16th at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm. On Sunday, April 17th, Greg Rodgers, Choctaw and Robert Lewis, Cherokee will be featured "Storytellers."

The Choctaw dancers will perform at noon on Saturday, followed by the Cherokee Adult Choir.

Robert Lewis, Cherokee storyteller, will be at the museum on Sunday engaging the audience in his unique style of storytelling. Also, Greg Rodgers, Choctaw will be joining Robert on Sunday for storytelling.

Historic re-enactors, Mike Berryhill, Muscogee (Creek) and Noel Grayson, Cherokee, will show what life was like in the 1800s. Dressed in period clothing, they will demonstrate the art of primitive tool making.

Basket weaver, Sandra Wilson, Muscogee (Creek), and Joann Rackliff Richmond, Cherokee Potter, will share the skills of their trade. Materials will be available for those want to try their hand at weaving or making a clay pot.

Weather permitting, a gospel singing will be held on the south porch at 2:00 pm Sunday.

Vendors for the market will have handmade items reflecting the heritage of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee or Seminole Tribes. Artists will sell originals to prints in their booths. Visitors can enjoy a traditional Creek meal or a fabulous Indian taco.

"Art Under the Oaks Market and Festival" is provided with the assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council.

All of the family entertainment is free and open to the public.

For more information on this event and others at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, please call 918-683-1701, Web site at fivetribes.org or e-mail 5civilizedtribes@sbcglobal.net. Museum hours for the festival weekend are 10 to 5 daily.

MCN Citizenship Office to be closed for reorganization

Media Release
MCN Citizenship Office

OKMULGEE — the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office will be closed to the public on the week of April 11 - 15, 2011, for reorganization.

For more information or to leave a message, please call 800-482-1979.

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OBITUARIES

BOBBY JOE ARANAYDO

OAKLAND, Calif., — Bobby Joe Aranaydo passed on early Sunday morning Feb. 20, 2011 at 1 a.m. He was 60 years old.

Bobby was Bear Clan from Kialegee Tribal Town. His Great Grandmother was Aggie Yahola and Great Grandfather was Joe Mingo. Adeline Mingo was his maternal Grandmother.

He was born May 8, 1950 in Sacramento, Calif., to Mary Ellen Mingo Yargee of Wetumka, Okla., and Canuto Lorono Aranaydo Sr., of Libaong Panglao, Bohol.

Bobby is survived by his brother Canuto "Sonny" Aranaydo Jr., of Oakland, Calif., sister Linda Susan Aranaydo of Okmulgee, Okla., and Michael DeWayne Aranaydo of Clovis, Calif., and sisters Denise Varner, Cathy Varner of Oregon and Brenda Varner of Concord, Calif.

Bobby graduated in 1969 from San Leandro High School, San Leandro, Calif., and worked as a laborer and artist in his later years. Bobby never married, and helped raise the children of his siblings as his own, seven nieces and nephews, and 10 great nieces and nephews that will miss him dearly. He leaves behind a host of relatives and friends, and a wonderful body of artwork.

Our beloved Bobby's wake was held on Thursday, Feb. 24, 2011 from 4-8:30 p.m., followed by his Rosary at 7 p.m., at the Holy Angels Cooper Chapel of Oakland, Calif.

Funeral mass was held in memory of Bobby at Saint Elizabeth Church in Oakland, Friday, Feb. 25, 2011 at 10 a.m. Internment was held on Tuesday March 8, 2011 at Saint Mary's Cemetery 4529 Howe Street Oakland, Calif., 94618. Reception followed with family and friends at the Inter-Tribal Friendship House, also of Oakland.

LIZZIE BRUNER

SAPULPA — Lizzie Harjo Bruner was born on Aug. 8, 1915 in Holdenville, Okla., to Rev. Lilla and Eliza (Long) Harjo. She went to be with the Lord, at the age of 95, on Saturday, March 12, 2011 at Sapulpa, Okla. She was the last living sibling of eight children. She was of the Bird Clan and a member of Hitchitee Tribal Town.

She attended Pecan Grove, Bacone, Sacred Heart and then graduated from Sapulpa High School in 1935. In 1944 she and George Bruner were married and made their home in Tulsa, Okla., until moving to Sapulpa, Okla., in 1957. She worked at Bartlett Memorial Hospital in Sapulpa and then retired from Hissom Memorial in Sand Springs in 1977. George and Lizzie returned to the Holdenville area in 1969, residing on her father's original allotment.

While residing in Sapulpa, the family attended Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church and Rock Creek Independent Methodist Church. However, she remained a lifelong member of Salt Creek United Methodist Church north of Holdenville. She loved the Lord, gospel singings and visiting other churches of all denominations. She also enjoyed singing and listening to Creek hymns. She always remembered the sick, upholding them in prayer, and visiting them in hospitals and homes.

Lizzie was an active member of the local American Legion Unit 32 of Holdenville. She was a Gold Star Mother and in June, 2010 the Veterans of Foreign War Post 1327 in Glenpool presented her with a plaque and United States Flag, paying tribute to her son SP4 David Bruner, who gave his life in Vietnam on May 14, 1969. In 2007, she was selected as one of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Living Legends.

In May, 2010 she was also named Mother of The Year by the Holdenville Tribune.

She was preceded in death by her parents, five brothers, and two sisters; one son, David Bruner; one daughter, Ann Inay, one son-in-law, Dave Inay, and one grandchild, John David Inay.

She is survived by two sons, George Doug Scott and wife Willena of Holdenville, Okla., and Melvin Bruner, of the home; three daughters: Phyllis Warrington and Kugee Supernaw of Skiatook, Okla., Deborah Clark of Wewoka, Okla., and Georgetta 'Jo' and Rev. Paul Fixico of Sapulpa, Oklahoma; one sister-in-law, Alice Stevens of Tulsa, Okla.; 13 grandchildren, 37 great grandchildren, and nine great great grandchildren.

She also leaves special friends and family, including two sons-in-laws, two daughters-in-law, two step-granddaughters, two step great-granddaughter, and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Pallbearers will include grandsons and escorts will include granddaughters. Honorary pallbearers are Freeland 'Butch' Powell, Louis McGeeley Jr., Roger Butler, Tommy Harjo, Alfred Goate, Bobby Larney, Gene Harjo, Rusty Powell, Jerry Wilson, Alfred Wilson, and all women's leaders.

Funeral services were held at Salt Creek United Methodist Church Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. Officiating was Rev. Alfred Elgin, Rev. Jimmy Anderson, and Rev. Dave Long, Jr.

Lizzie was laid to rest at Harjo Family Cemetery (1-3/4 miles east of Hwy 48 on EW 127 RD).

CHRIS "O" HARJO

HENRYETTA — Rev. Christopher "Chris" O. Harjo, Sr., a resident of Henryetta, passed away on Monday, March 21, 2011 at the age of 74.

He was born July 4, 1936 to Mitchell and Louisa (Tiger) Harjo in Hanna, Okla. He served in the United States Navy and on Jan. 3, 1962, he married Katie (Clark) Harjo.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mitchell and Louisa Harjo; son, Christopher Harjo, Jr. I.; brother, Marsey Harjo, sister, Ruth Free and brother, Richmond Harjo.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Katie Harjo of the home; four children, Christopher Harjo Jr., II of Henryetta; Selina M. Harjo of Henryetta; Elmira Harjo-Peterson of Cleveland, Okla., and Marceline Harjo-Leach of Girard, Kansas; one sister, Fannie Johnson of Okemah; two brothers, Sundea Harjo of Roanoke, Texas and Albert Harjo of Okemah; four grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Services were held Friday, March 25, 2011 at the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Henryetta with Rev. Huston Tiger officiating. Burial will follow the service at the Tiger Family Cemetery in Hanna, Okla., under the direction of the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Henryetta.

Visitation was held at the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Henryetta.

Pallbearers will be Damen Leach, Doug Morrison, Kolby Morrison, Adam Ortiz, Reggie Barcindebar and Robert Deer.

In lieu of flowers the family request donations to be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society –Tulsa Branch 4606 E. 67th St. #103 Tulsa, OK 74136.

Friends may send their condolences to www.shurdenjackson.com

SHAUNDAY LITTLE

OKMULGEE — Shaunday Elizabeth Little, a resident of Okmulgee, passed away on Sunday, March 6, 2011 in Seminole, Okla., at the age of 25 years.

Little was born March 2, 1986 in Okemah, Okla., to Thomas Little and Karen Barnett.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Mary and Clarence Little.

She is survived by her parents, Karen Little of Henryetta and Thomas Little of Seminole, Okla.; daughters Hailey Rae Leach of Okmulgee and Shayla Sue Hunt of Okmulgee; sisters Tawna Little of Norman, Okla., Alisa Little of Norman, Okla., and Lindsey Proctor of Norman, Okla.; brother Micah Little of Tulsa, Okla.; grandparents Edward Barnett of Henryetta and Dicey Barnett of Henryetta; as well as many other relatives and friends.

A wake service for Little was held on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 7 p.m.. at the Little Cussetah Indian Methodist Church in Wilson, Okla.

Funeral Services for Shaunday were held Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 1p.m., at the Little Cussetah Indian Methodist Church. Officiating the service was Rev. Chebon Kernall, Rev. Rosemary McCombs Maxey, and Rev. Tim Lowe. Pallbearers for the service were Menewa Starr, Cvto Starr, Brian Barnett, Eric Barnett, Sean Barnett, Jeremy McGirt, Robert Potts, and Dustin Little.

Interment followed the service at the Barnett Family Cemetery in Henryetta, Okla., under the direction of the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home of Henryetta.

Friends may send their condolences to www.shurdenjackson.com

JACKIE FEELING

EUFAULA — Jackie Feeling, Jr., was born August 22, 1980 in Kansas City, Missouri to Jack Sr., and Stella Timothy Feeling. He accepted the Lord as his personal Savior and was baptized at an early age and place his membership at Okfuskee Baptist Church. Jackie received his education from Eufaula Public Schools, where he attended grades K-12th grade, graduating with a High School Diploma with the class of 1999.

He participated in many activities and played football throughout his junior high and high school years and was selected to play in the Annual All- Star Football Game his senior year, receiving an award for Defensive Tackle All-Conference 2A-7. After graduating, he attended Bacone College for a semester.

Jackie worked several years in the oil field, which has included Pa., N.Y., Okla., and La. He also worked as a Security Officer for Muscogee (Creek) Nation for several years, and was most currently employed at the (Creek) Nation Casino - Muskogee, receiving the CLEET certification. During that time, Jackie attended several trainings to be better qualified for his job and made numerous friends, while employed there.

Jackie was a huge Oklahoma Sooner and Kansas City Chiefs football fan and would spend each Saturday and Sunday watching and cheering for his teams. He enjoyed playing golf and throwing darts when had the chance, and most of all spending time with his family and friends. Jackie had a huge appetite and enjoyed family get togethers to eat mom's home-cooking. He was always happy and loved to make his family laugh. He always had a big smile on his face and that was how he wanted to be remembered.

Survivors include: his parents, Jack Sr., and Stella Feeling, of the home; brothers, Chris Feeling and Debbie Jackson, of Eufaula; John and Vanessa Timothy, of Tahlequah; sisters, LeAndra Feeling and Floyd Osborne; Mary Feeling and D.J. Deere, all of Eufaula; and Sheila and Mark Kelley, of Checotah; 15 nieces; and 10 nephews.

Funeral services were held at the Okfuskee Indian Baptist Church with Norman Daniel, of Butler Creek Baptist and Richard Pickup officiating.

Pallbearers were Chris Feeling, John Timothy, D.J. Deere, Floyd Osborne, Mark Kelley, and A.J. Lewis. Honorary pallbearers were Randy Johnston, Judd Pickering, Gene Daniels, Eufaula VFW Post 8798, Creek Nation Casino (Muskogee) Security Officers, Seth Mortenson, and Shan Evans. Burial followed at Okfuskee Cemetery under the direction of Hunn Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory.

THANK YOU

DEERE FAMILY

OKMULGEE — The family of Lyle K. Deere wishes to extend our gratitude to our many friends and extended family for your thoughts, prayers, flowers, and food during our recent loss. We gratefully acknowledge the Mvskoke Nation Bow Shooters Society for the blessing ceremony held on March 5, 2011.

Also, to the Board Members of the Madness in March 8th Annual Native American Basketball Tournament, we thank you for your recognition of Lyle and the honor bestowed upon our family during the tournament in Durant.

His teams, the Sooner Stars and Sooner Storm, were sponsored by the Muscogee Indian Community and had the following record of success: 2005 Girls Champions, 2006 Girls 3rd Place and Boys 2nd Place, 2008 Boys Champions, and 2009 Boys Final Four Participant. Lyle's time with us was a gift and his memory lives on!

Mvto and may God bless,
Joyce C. Deere

DUNN / LITTLE FAMILY

TULSA — The Dunn/ Little Family would like to say Thank You to: Creek Nation Lighthorse for the escorting they did from the church in Tulsa to Morris Cemetery.

They would also like to thank everyone for the prayers, flowers and food that was brought to the church and home.

I would like to thank all the ladies that did the cooking and all the preachers that came and brought good messages Sunday evening.

Again MVTO for everything, the love and support will not ever be forgotten by our family.

Chebon will be missed dearly by his family and friends.

TAYLOR FAMILY

ANAHEIM, Calif., — It is difficult to find the words to express our gratitude for the many kindnesses everyone have shown during our loss. We are so grateful to everyone who helped us through our sadness. The Taylor family wishes to thank the following:

The Burgess Sisters—Karen, Georgia, Tina, Melissa and Mulsey, Esther Gee, Ken Scott, Jean Berryhill, Larry Soweka, Billie Cox, Butch Burgess, Claude Sumner, Belinda Hicks, Lizanne Holata, Jim and Hattie Burley and Norma Hale.

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, that we saw sitting there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say.

Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts we thank you so much for whatever part.

A great big "MVTO"

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Bob McLemore
Patty Fletcher-McLemore

Send us your lifestyle news

To submit announcements, please mail to:

MCN Communications
PO Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK 74447

or e-mail to AngelE@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

BIRTHDAYS

ADDISON DEO

OKMULGEE — Addison Gail Deo celebrated a birthday on March 9, with a “princess” theme party.

Deo is the daughter of Phillip and Tina Deo and has one brother, Ian. She is the granddaughter of Aline and the late Elmer Jack, Bill Deo Jr. and the late Sandy Long. Her great grandparents are the late Mitchell Louma Jack and the late Rev. Roley and Srah Haynes.

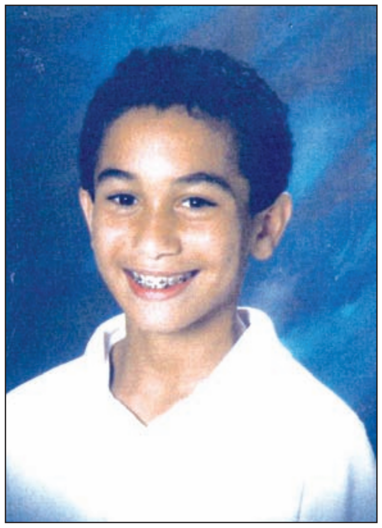
Deo is a student at the MCN head start and a member of the Skunk Clan.

WANDA MARTIN

WICHITA, Kan. — Wanda Faye Martin celebrated her birthday on Feb. 19. Martin is the daughter of the late Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Marks was the eleventh child of 18 siblings. She graduated from Clearview Oklahoma, and currently resides in Kansas.

ANTHONY NEWMAN



OREGON CITY, Ore. — Anthony Q Newman Jr. celebrated a birthday on March 9.

Newman is the son of Anthony Newman and has two siblings Baylee and Daelyn. His grandparents are Tony and Reba Newman. Great parents are Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Newman is a student at Central Catholic.

DAELYN NEWMAN

OREGON CITY, Ore. — Daelyn Marie Newman celebrated a birthday on March 10.

Newman is the daughter of Anthony and Teri Newman and has two siblings Baylee and Anthony. Her grandparents are Tony and Reba Newman. Great parents are Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Newman is a student at St. John the Apostle.

MADISON MCGIRT

MOUNDS — Madison Nicole McGirt celebrated a birthday with a “princess” theme party at incredible pizza.

McGirt is the daughter of Stephanie and Chester McGirt and has six brothers, the late Marcus, Lewis, Cordell, R.D., Tristan, and Dylan, as well as two sisters, Gina and Amber. She has one niece, Tatum. Her grandparents are Kay and Lewis Marshal and the late Betty McGirt and great grand parents are the late Stoddard and Jeanetta Sullivan and the late Captian Sr. and Samaria Marshall.

McGirt is of the Deer Clan.

GINAVEE MOWLES

CARTWRIGHT — Ginavee Cora Mowles celebrated her 16th birthday on March 2.

Mowles is the only daughter of Carrie Ramey and the late Gregory Suther Mowles. She is the granddaughter of Arley Dwight and Angela Ramey and Irene and Jerry Mowles. Her great grandparents are Ola and Arley Ramey and Don and Dorothy Potteet, Cora May Lowe and Suther Bruner.

Mowley is of the Wind Clan and attends Colbert Schools.

SKYLER SURBER

SANDSPRINGS —Skyler Nicole Bemore Surber celebrated a birthday on Jan. 24 with a “coming of age,” theme party.

Surber is the daughter of Becky Bemore. She has one sibling, Tony Goins. Surber is the granddaughter of John and Berry Bemore. Her great grandparents are Dave and Christine Tulsa.

Surber is a student at Charles Page, a member of the Sweet Potatoe Clan. She is of the Coweta Tribal Town.

SYLVIA SELMON

WICHITA, Kan. —Sylvia Selmon celebrated a birthday on Feb. 28.

Selmon is the 16th of 18 children. Her parents were Joseph and Rebecca Marks. Her grandmother was Dolly Golden.

Selmon is a graduate of Weleetka High School who now resides in Kansas.

MEGAN THOMPSON

WELLSTON — Megan Marie Thompson celebrated her 2nd birthday with family and friends at hillside baptist church, McLoud.She enjoyed an Elmo cake.

Thompson is the daughter of Reg and Brandy Thompson and has one sister Erin. Her grandparents are Reg and Gaye Thompson and Scott and Karen Hanson and Brenda Compelube. Thompson is of the Alligator Clan.

Tax Break Special

Saturday April 16th

Diamond Club Tax Break Special NOON - 5:00 PM
$10 Match Play. Hot seat drawings every 1/2 hour from 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM for prizes ranging from $100 free plays to $1,000 cash.

Bingo Tax Break Special
$10 Pays $500. Mini games pay DOUBLE! VIP members receive a $10 discount.

Travel Plaza
8TH
ANNIVERSARY
APRIL
17TH

Noon - 5:00 PM

$8 Match Play. $88 Hot seat prize free play drawings every 1/2 hour. $888 cash prize drawings every hour.
Free T-Shirt for Diamond Club Members.
(While supplies last)

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SPECIAL
Saturday April 23rd

Easter Bunny Diamond Club Special
NOON - 5:00 PM
$10 Match Play. Hot seat drawings every 1/2 hour from 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM for prizes ranging from $50 free plays to $1,000 cash.

Easter Bunny Bingo Special
$10 Pays $500. Mini games pay DOUBLE! Each single winner Early Birds, Special Games, and Regular Games will choose an Easter Egg for a bonus prize.

Easter Bunny Splash Pots
4:00 PM - MIDNIGHT
We will splash the pot with $50 to $500 on selected poker cash tables every hour.

Easter Bunny Bounty Poker Tournament 12:30 $50 Buy-in
Each player will receive a free $10 bounty card.

LUCK STRIKES HERE! facebook twitter Look for us on facebook and twitter under 'LUCK STRIKES HERE'

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MCN citizens urged to register to vote and update addresses

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board is preparing for the Sept. 17, 2011 officer elections for Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council Seats A for each district. The number of representatives will be decreased from 26 to 18 and voters will now vote for every candidates from each district.

The following registered voters have been placed on an invalid list due to an undeliverable address. The Election Board is requesting that these voters contact the Election Board at (918) 732-7631, (918) 732-7685, 1-800-482-1979 extensions 7631 and 7685 or e-mail election@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. It is in citizens' best interest to keep addresses up-to-date to avoid problems on election day.

If you are 18 years and older and a newly enrolled citizen; voting is not only a privilege but also a benefit to you and your family. Get registered.

Abbott, Jerry Eugene
Acheson (Moore)Marilyn R.
Adair, Harold Dean
Adams, Charlie
Admek, Christopher Duff
Adams, Gary Wayne
Adams, Mark Stefan
Adams(King)Nancy Muriel
Adams, Neal Victor
Adams(Rinehart)Paula Sue
Addison, Reanna VaRene
Adolph, Gregory Lysle
Adolph, Jeffery Eugene
Agent (Post), Samatha
Aguiler(White)Rachel Marie
Ahtone(Marshall), Eloise
Akins(Lout), Cynthia Marie
Aldridge(Watashe)Sophrona
Alexander, April Spring
Alexander, Bernice Carol
Alexander, David Clinton
Alexander, George S.
Alexander, James Alan
Alexander, Robert Lee
Allen, Carl Ray
Allen, Marvin Gregory
Allen (Tiger), Melissa
Allen, Shereen Lanier
Alley, Randall Lee
Alley, Tommy Joe
Allison, Robert Ray
Alyea, Khrystina Marie
Anderson, Bobby Carl
Anderson, Erica Breanne
Anderson, Joseph Warren
Anderson(Harvey)Kathryn
Anderson, Karen Lynn
Anderson, Michael Jon
Anderson, Nathan Edwin
Anderson, Richard Vernon
Anderson, Robert Clarence
Anderson Jr., Robert F.
Anderson, Robin Lee
Anderson, Solomon Knox
Anderson, Steven David
Anderson, Susan Denise
Andy, William Ray
Anglen, Michael William
Ansiel, Billy Joe
Anthony 9Reynold)Deresa
Applegate(Lackey)Pamela G.
Aquino, Domingo Allen
Aquino Jr, Ricardo Magpayo
Arbuckle, Carol Ann
Archer, Byron Lee
Archer, Melissa Jame
Archer, Randall Mark
Arledge(Knox)Margoletta
Armitage, Kristen Ashely
Armour (Fox), Sonya Lashon
Arnett(Sullins), Tenia Elaine
Arnold, Jon Lewis
Arnold(Acree), Paula Kay
Arnold, Sabrina Ann
Arnold, Sonja Ann
Arpoika, Bobby Islo
Arredondo(Buck)Cheryl R.
Arterberry, Mary Esther
Atterberrym Martina Jo
Arzola(Keller)Sherri Lynn
Asbury, Augustine L.
Asbury, Lillian Jo
Asimenu(Montgomery)Janet
Atkins-Clerc, Ambra Dianne
Atkins(Miller)Kathy Jeanette
Atkins Jr., William Norvel
Atkins, William Norvel
Aubrey, Herbert F.
Audrain (Wood), Gertrude
Ault(Warren), Cheri Renee
Ault, Richard Brian
Aultman, Christopher Todd
Ayers, John David
Baccus Jr., Irving William
Bailey (Harrell), Betty Lou
Bailey (Beaver), Robin K.
Bailey, Trevor Lee
Baker (Jennings) Alice Deann
Baker, Ivan
Baker, james Theodore
Baker, Leon
Baker Jr., Robert James
Baker, Ronald Butler
Baldridge, Paul Anthony
Baldridge, Steven Joseph
Bales, Mel Ray
Ball (Steele), Casey Dawn
Ballard, Ametra DeLaine
Ballenger (Garrett), Lila Fay
Banks (Bird), Carol Elaine
Banks, Elmer Ray
Banks, Lori Lea
Barlow Jr., Charles A.
Barnes, Bobby Ray
Barnes (Williams) Donna K.
Barnes, Carolyn Louise
Barnett Jr., Charles Barney
Barnett, Christopher Todd
Barnett, Cody Brian
Barnett, Eddie
Barnett, Gail Jackson
Barnett, Michael Shannon
Barnett, Sandra Carole
Barnett, Timothy Ryan
Barnett, William Bradley
Barnoski, Phillip Lee
Barratt(Gotts), Virginia Sue
Barett, Rhett L.
Barron(Manwarring)Delorse
Barry, Richard Louis
Barsh(Baker) Regina C.
Bartlow, Lorrie Louise
Bartlow, Stephanie Ann
Bartmess, Dione Marie
Barton, Andrew Robin
Barton(Kelley), Brenda Carol
Barton (Hart), Rosella B.
Barzellone, Justin Samuel
Bass(Townsend), June I.
Battiest, David Wayne
Battiest, Rufus William
Baughman, David Preston
Baughman, Terri Lynn
Baxter(Kezer), Melinda V.
Bayer(Rowe), Gina Marie
Beal, Kimberly Ann
Bean, Gary Dale
Bear, Benita Kay
Bear, Bobby Ray
Bear(Grayson) Clara Christine
Bear, Dale Luscus
Bear, Jamison Oliver
Bard, Janie Alene
Bear, Joe
Bear, Joyce Ann
Bear, Little Rock
Bear, Roark George
Beasley(Lowe), Diana Lynn
Beaver Sr., Ward Allen
Beaver, Benjamin David
Beaver, Dane Kardell
Beaver, Jody Neeha
Beaver, Lisa Dawn
Beck, Jimmy Carl
Beebe, Brian Keith
Bell (Kelley), Mary Ann
Bell, Jr., Tony Lee
Bell Jr., William Roger
Bellamy, Robert Joseph
Benedict(Wesley)Jessica E.
Benn(Sanders), Samatha J.
Bennefield, Harold Porter
Bennett (Watt), Cassandra
Bennett, James Vardeman
Bennett (Cook), Nathan T.
Bennett, Sammy Lynn
Bennett(Mouser), Sandra Kay
Benson, Billie Dennis
Benson (Gordon), Kayleen
Berg (Barnett), Cindy
Bergman (Supernaw),Carol L.
Berna, Leann Elizabeth
Bernard, William Peter
Berrones(Anama) Melissa C
Berryhill, Aaron Dale
Berryhill, Adrian Lee
Berryhill, Allen Duel
Berryhill, Brett Wayne
Berryhill, Charles Robert
Berryhill, Chubby Riley
Berryhill, Kelaina Ellen
Berryhill, Diana Lynn
Berryhill, Donald Lee
Berryhill (Simms), Emma
Berryhill, Eugene Rex
Berryhill Jr., Garry Eugene
Berryhill, James Robin
Berryhill, Jerry Dwayne
Berryhill, Katrina Dawn
Berryhill, Kolepah Jo
Berryhill, Larry Mose
Berryhill, Joseph
Berryhill, Loren Wayne
Berryhill, Mark Dewayne
Berryhill Jr., Paul Richey
Berryhill, Richard Allen
Berryhill, Walter Sammie
Berryhill(Whitlow)Shirley A.
Berryhill(McHenry), Stacey
Berryhill, Wane Morris
Beshear, Coy Ray
Beshear, David Wayne
Breshears(Luster)Irene C.
Best, John Hogan
Beth, Jammie Lynn
Bethel(Murphy)Pearla Mae
Bethel, David Wayne
Bettis(Hilton)Mildred L.
Bevenue, Alfred William
Bevenue, Joseph Kent
Bevenue, Melissa Michelle
Bezzell(Narcomey)Gloria Ann
Bible, Jerry Wayne
Bible, Matthew Christian
Biggs(holleyman) Ruth Ann
Bigler, Michael David
Bigpond, Cody Cotetan
Bigpond, Emmanuel Louis
Bigpond, Lucille
Billy, Franklin Timothy
Binam,Krista Marie
Bingham(Click)Tammy Lea
Bird, James Edward
Birdcreek, diana
Birdcreek(Thomas) Donna S.
Birdwell, William Britt
Bishop, Jason Lee
Black, Lindsey Lynn
Black(Bevenue)Caroly Ruth
Blackburn, Dayman Lee
Blackwell, Douglas Alvin
Blackwell Jr., Seaburn C,
Blalock, Richard Allen
Blankenship(Hawkins)Linda
Blankenship, Ricky Wayne
Block (Webb), Margaret C.
Boerstler, Darrell Lee
Boles, Frank T. Holland
Boneau(Pruet)Katheryn Jean
Bonner, Ronald Scott
Boone, Dedra Shane
Boone, Saleema Fareed
Bonner Jr., Sterling Joseph
Booth, Sara Jane
Boone, Travis Ray
Border(Couch), Peggy P.
Borlaug, Marlene Christine
Bosin,(Butler), Sandra Lea
Bouchie, Kristy Dyan
Bowers, Donna Elouise
Bowles, Freda Annette
Boyd(Foster) Ida May
Boyd(Danna), Carla Denise
Boyles,(Thomas)Margaret E.
Bradshaw(Butler)Valerie A.
Bradwell(Whitlow)Kristie A.
Brady(Bowman)Mary Allen
Brand, Doris
Brand, Guyla Denne
Brandon, Barry Wayne
Branum, Ella Danell
Brasuell, Perry Clay
Brasuell, Stephen Jed
Braseill, Wallace Wade
Bratcher(Morrow)Georgialen
Bratcher, Jerri Lynn
Bredesen(Banks)Stephanie L.
Breman, Aldo Ray

Breshears, Trenton Paul
Breuerm Alicaia Ann
Brewster, Larry Wayne
Bridges, Jordan Wade
Briscoe(Hamilton)Bobbine J.
Britt(Tiger), Sherri Lane
Brizendine(Miller)Barbara A.
Brock, Terri Lynn
Brough, Donald Ray
Brown, Anthony Christopher
Brown(Boggs)Carissa D.
Brown, David Dewayne
Brown, David Douglas
Brown, Donise Lynette
Brown, Emma Jean
Brown, Franklin Eddie
Brown, Geri Leigh
Brown, Glandora
Brown Sr., Johnny M.
Brown,Martha Roseanna
Brown(Moore)Minnie Lucille
Brown, Paul Everett
Brown(Yahola)Pennie D.
Brown(Battiest)Rebecca E.
Brown, Randall Cordell
Brown, Rhonda Jean
Brown, Roy
Brown(Grayson)Sarah Ann
Brown, Shannon Sue
Brown, William Robert
Brownfield, Kelli Renn
Brownfield, Oscar Jeffery
Brownlow(Seymour)Paula J.
Bruce, Lucas Douglas
Brucing, Leslie Earl
Brumley(Wingo)Debra Ann
Bruner, Anita Daye
Bruner, Christopher Gene
Bruner, Douglas Rentie
Bruner(Coachman)Louisa L
Bruner(Dan), Jannie M.
Bruner, Jamalo Deon
Bruner, James Eliott
Bruner, John Daniel
Bruner, Lady Beatrice
Bruner, Randal Louis
Bruner, Stephanie Jo
Bryden(French)Sherry A.
Buchanan, Martha Ann
Buchholz, Deborah Anita
Buck, Kevin Edward
Buck, Korey Rayan
Buckaloo(Prettyman)Paula J
Buckley, Bernice Aloma
Buckley Jr., Bill
Buckley, Cherly Lee
Buckley, Harry Lennell
Buckley, Sandra Lee
Buckely(Henncha)Wanda L.
Buckley, Wadie Leon
Buckmaster II,Donnie Joe
Bucktrot(Harjo)Anna Marie
Bucktrot, Robyn Lindsay
Buie(Wind), Ruth Ann
Builter,(Escoe)Leona E.
Buller, Matthew Alen
Bullett, Jaymee Laur Rene
Bullett, Robert Jon
Bunner, Angela Dawn
Bunner(Wilson), Cherly B.
Bunner, Dana Michele
Bunner, Kenneth Mosey
Bunner, Tracy Gayle
Burchett, Lynette Jean
Burgess, Linden Phelix
Burgess, Nathaniel Ricardo
Burgess, Nathaniel Vern
Burgess, Randal Yale
Burgess, Raymond Lee
Burgess III, Senora Kenneth
Burgess, (Leitka)Ruthie Ann
Burkhart(Robison)Lea Ana
Burklin(Narcomey)Anna M.
Burnett Jr., Guy
Burns(Freeman)Amelia Jaye
Burris, Curtis William
Burson(Harvey), Connie
Burtnett, James Leon
Burton, James Owen
Bush(Fisher)Marilyn Glenda
Bushouse(Magee)Pamela J.
Bushyhead(Robison)Kathleen
Butler, Jerome Lynn
Byers, Vickie Jean
Byrd(Berryhill), Gnetta F.
Byrd, Belinda LaLene
Cable (Vail), Jo Ann
Caesar, Alponso
Cain(Plum)Tracia Anette
Caldwell(Jackson)Jerra Gay
Calvert,m Michael Todd
Camerson, John Grayson
Camp(Little)Bonita Jane
Camp, Kenneth Lee
Campbell(Cobb), Alcee A.
Campbell, Clay Ian
Campbell, Ian McCullum
Canard, Robert Lee
Canard, Roger Vernon
Carey, John Christopher
Cargill(Bell)Marissa Roberta
Carman Sr., Lonnie Chester
Carman(Wesley), Tonya Jo
Carpenter(Ross), Joanne
Carpenter, Vicki Jo
Carr, George William
Carroll(West)Stacie Paulette
Carson, Dana Wesley
Carter(Armstrong) Michelle
Carter, Richard Lee
Carter, Tina Deann
Carter, William Brian
Case Jr., Jack
Case, Jack
Casey, Leonard Wayne
Casey, Pt Rockne
Casey, Patricia Ann
Castro, Larry Demetrio
Cates, Tina Marie
Catland(Archer)Barbara J.
Caudill, Peter Ian
Cavin, Melissa Colene
Chalakee Jr., Billy Webster
Chalakee, Marjorie Ann
Chalakee, Theron Layne
Chambers, Jefferson Ross
Chandler(Cooper), Linda P.
Chandler, Jimmy Lynn
Chancy, Jackson Steal John
Chapman, Crystal Ann
Charles, Johnny Cherone
Chase, Walton Cole
Chastain, Jason Allen
Chastain, Michelle Nicole
Chavez, Angela Joanne
Chavez, John Freeman
Checotah, Benjamin Gilbert
Checotah, Orvilon
Checotah, Wilbertine
Checote, Sky Chebon
Cheek, Darin Wesley
Cheek, Dawn Anne
Childers, Daniel Christopher
Childers, Edward Lee
Childers, James Lee
Chiders, Jessie Dean
Childers, Marchie Joe
Childers, Mark Steven
Childers, Mary Elizabeth
Childress (Tiger), Lucy Mae
Chisholm Jr., Frank
Chisholm, Frank Eugene
Chisholm Jr. Samuel Joseph
Chisler(Clinton)Patricia K.
Chissoe, Aaron Douglas
Chissoe, Michele Marie
Choate, Nerissa Jean
Choate Jr., Thomas Owen
Chotkey (Jimboy), Louisa
Chouteau, Lavon
Christian (Backburn), Etta M.
Christiansen, Patrick Louis
Christy (Bethel), Linda Marie
Chuckluckm Jamye Nicole
Chupco, Sammy Don
Clark (Mackey), Bessie A.
Clark, Penny Joanne
Clark (Hardin), Roxanne
Clark, Sheril Ann
Clark (Fisher), Tamra Sue
Clary (Berryhill), Ruth Ellen
Clayton, Kevin Elmer
Clayton, Ronald Jay
Cleary (Logan), Regina
Clements (Brown), Lois C.
Clemmer (Foster), Elizabeth
Clester (Mannon), Linda L.
Clifton (Baughn) Debra Kay
Clifton (Braun), Dianna L.
Cline (Crawford), Shirley A.
Clinton, Cuba Mae
Clinton, Gary Glen
Cloud (Holuby), Leah Mae
Cloud, Clinton Lew
Cloud, Latisha Renee
Cloud, Mark David
Cloud, Mark Stanley
Cloud, Rodney Eugene
Coachman,Agnes
Coachman, David James
Caochman, Joseph Don
Coachman, Silas James
Coatney (Davidson), Lana C.
Cobb, Youvon Linell
Cochran (Cole), Brenda Kay
Cochran (Cole), Brenda Kay
Cockrum (Leach), Kathleen L.
Cody (Rose), Jenny Lee
Coffin (Brooks), Lolita
Coffman (Sanger), Karen R.
Coder Jr., Thomas Edward
Cole (Rundell), Bobbie
Cole, Jamie Lee
Cole, Theresa Liegh
Coleman (Johnson), Betty D.
Coleman, Jacquelyn Fae
Coleman (Cornell), Manie M.
Collins, Phyllis Maudean
Combs (Doyle), Brenda
Combs, Harold Barton
Combs, Marcus Lewis
Combs, Melvin Lewis
Compton (Lewis) Diana Joyce
Condry, Elizabeth Irene
Conrad, Millicent Wahkola
Conway, Joanna Lee
Cook, Jessica Lynn
Cook (Thomas), Joyce M.
Cook, Krystal Mae
Cook, Mark Alan
Cook, Scott David D.
Coon Jr., Arthur
Cooper, Cranford Wayne
Cooper, Lyndel Lin
Coots, Mark Anthony
Copeland (Newberry), Lisa
Corgan III, John Marshall
Corley (Adams), Betty Jean
Cotton, Lucy Diane
Cottrell (Burnett), Cindy Lea
Couch, Jack Cody
Coulter (Baccus) Kathy D.
Counterman, Joseph Steven
Courtemanche, Deborah S.
Courtwright(Wadsworth) Lucille
Covey, Leonard Archie
Covey, Linda Sue
Covey, Louis Archie
Cowan (Swingle), Alice M.
Cowan, Robert Lee
Cowles, Jimmy Wayne
Cox, Jerry Edward
Cox, Laura Sue
Cox, Winnie Jo
Coyle, Bobby Lynn
Coyle, Randy Alan
Craig, Hope Shnees
Craig, Toni Latrease
Crain, Ambia Lea
Cramblet(Wehunt)Dawnielle
Cravatt, Leona
Crawford, Geraldine
Crawford(Collins)Linda C.
Crawford, Scotty Shane
Cricklin, David Ricky
Cries for Ribs(Cooper) Kendra
Critzer(Wenner)Mikela Kay
Cron(Sherlock)Teresa Marie
Crook, Danetta Ann
Crosby, Shonna Elizabeth
Crounse(Phipps)Jacqueline
Crowell, Marqurette Murphy
Crowell, Thomas James
Crowell-Borromeo, Deana P.
Cruce(Sterner)Anna Louise
Cruse (Berryhill)_ Carrie E.
Culley, Angela Carissa
Culley, Jeffrey Wallace
Culley, Pamela Diane
Culley(Kelly)Shannon Michell
Culley, Tarsha Renea
Cully (Fixico), Anna Lee
Cummings, Wesley Andrew
Cummins, Betty Lou
Cunningham, Celease K.
Cunningham, Leroy
Curry Jerone H.
Curry, Ostennia Mae
Curtis (Richard), Wanda
Dallas (Lowe), Connie Lynn
Daniels, Lance Sequoyah
Cark (Barratt), Jam Michelle
Davidson(Williams)Oncawa K
Davis, Anthony Paul
Davis, Billy
Davis, Cheryl Lynn
Davis, Christopher Lee
Davis, Desiree Shawn
Davis, Don Juan
Davis (Charles), Doris Elaine
Davis (Chotkey), Estelen
Davis, Glenn Marshall
Davis, Gwendolyn Denise
Davis, Hugh Nolan
Davis, Linda Faye
Davis Jr., Mack
Davis, Marcellino James
Davis, Mario Enrico
Davis, Martha Kathryn
Davis (McNac), Mary M.
Davis, Mella Marie
Davis, Michele Janene
Davis, Nicole Rachelle
Davis Jr., Oneil
Davis, Pamela Kay
Davis, Patricia Sue
Davis, Ramona Jean
Davis, Sandra Ann
Davis, Teresa Jean
Davison, Ronald Gene
Dawson (Deere) Mancie
Day (Goins), Janie Lucille
Day (Harjo), Ora Mae
Dean, Richard Vernon
Deaver (Myers), Sarah Jean

Deer, Michael Anthony
Deere (Harjo), Mord H.
Deere, Charlene Gayle
Deere, Christopher Colin
Deere, Dana Michell
Deere, Dana Michelle
Deere, Edward Dena
Deere, Jerry Kenneth
Deere, Josephine
Deere, Kerry Anne
Deere, Wilson
Deeringwater, Craig Clifford
Deeringwater, Lee Ann
Demry, Lacy Deon
Denny, Melissa Ann
Dennis (McCosar), Beverly S.
Deo, Steven Thomas
Deroin (Battles), Debra Carol
Determan (Skaggs), Freda
Devine, Curtis Martin
Dewoody (Savage), Margaret
Diamond (Lane), Tracy Yvette
Dickerson Sr., Roosevelt S.
Dickerson, Crawford Keven
Dickey (Fleet) Alice Josephine
Diehl, Daniel Scott
Digranes (Autry), Jo Lynn
Dillsaver, Leah Marie
Dinwiddle II, Granger
Dobbins, Linda Denise
Dobbs (Alexander), Connie Jo
Dobbs, Willie Tecumseh
Dobson, Leah Alicia
Dobson, Mikel Lee
Dodge (Wilbanks) Charlotte
Doering (Canard), Linda Ann
Drsey, Daniel Tommy
Dorsey, Gary Neil
Doss (Sarty), Carol Jean
Doss, Douglas Stevens
Doss, Reginald Keith
Doss, Samson Wayne
Doss, Trae Jame
Dossett, Brenda Lee
Douglass, David James Dowdy, Jeremy
Downing (Bear), Jacqueline
Doyle, Annalis
Doyle, Jeffrey
Dozier, Juanita
Dozier, Rebecca Dee
Drew, Earl E.
Drew, Georgiana
Drew, Joseph
Drew, Yvonne Ahniwake
Driver Jr., Mahlon Kennis
Drotos (Taylor)Jennifer Ann
Drywater, Jason Lee
Dubose, (Ceasar), Icy Ree
Dumbar, Lila Champaigne
Duncan, Donald
Duncan, Jay Daniel
Duncan, Ronald Dean
Dunford Jr., Philip Don
Dunham(McCallum)Bessie L.
Dunham, Fred Ray
Dunker (Leeder), Sherry Lynn
Dunlap, Marilyn Louise
Dunn, Donna Jo
Denn, Mark Elson
Dunning (McGirt), Betty Lou
Dunson, Gary
Dunson, Lucille
Dunson, Marty
Durfee (Grayson), Kelly L.
Durniak (Moore), Sharon
Durossette, Robert David
Duvall, Darin Lee
Duvall, Matthew Glenn
Dyer (Steven), Mollie Ann
Eads, Aaron Phillip
Eads, Ira Vernon
Eakers, Vincent Ray
Earnest (Jerrigan), Tammy
Easley (Self), Evelyn Ann
Eastep, Tommy Lee
Ebahotubbi(Daney)Michelle
Edminsten, Maruice
Edwards, Delbert Donald
Edwards, (Smith), Kathy L.
Edmiston (Shirley), Nelly Sue
Edwards Jr., Richard Wayne
Edwards, Rickey Swain
Eldridge (Sullenger) Sherry E.
Elliott(Yahola)Sallye Elizabeth
Elliott, Joseph Boyd
Ellis(Graham), Debra Ann
Ellis, Susan Deann
Ellsworth(Benson), Kristin G.
Ellsworth(Smith), Stephanie
Elston (Birdcreek), Faith E.
Emerson(Powell)Shirley F.
Emerson, Noel Webster
Emery (Posey), Bryon
Emrich (Thomasson)Deborah
Enkey, David Wayne
Emmis (Couch), Patricia Ennis, Ewelene Evette
Enriquez (Long), Betty G.
Epperley, Linda Ann
Epperson, Gary Nelson
Erler (Heddings), Mary Elalee
Escoe Jr., General
Escoe, Joella
Eshleman(Stengel), Tracy L.
Espinoza, Sherry Lynn
Eubanks, Sammy Lee
Factor (Scott), Lydia
Factor (Bear) Rosanna Louise
Factor, Patrick Ryan
Factor, Reuben
Factor, Stephen Walter
Factor, Tookah A.
Falconer(Shankles)Barbara A.
Faris(Madrid)Jaime Marie
Farnsworth, Katy Sue
Feathers, Stanley Edward
Featherston (Berryhill), Lee
Felix, Richard Allan
Feliz, Richard Dale
Ferguson, Carrie Lynn
Fiarris (Watkins) Jeanne A
Fields, James
Fields, James Allen
Fish Jr., Charles
Fish, Cindy Lynne
Finch, Jerry Allan
Fish Jr., Louis Melford
Fish Jr., Meihcell Grancis
Fish, Terrel Darnell
Fisher, Cecil Conrad
Fisher, Holly Ann
Fisher, Jeffery Howard
Fisher, Johnny Bill
Fisher, Kenneth Sam
Fisher Jr., Lawrence Harvey
Fisher, Wynona Jean
Fitch (Tiger), Barbara Sue
Fitzer, Trula May
Fixico, Anthony Glen
Fixico, Antonia
Fixico Sr., Charles Mochess
Fixico, Curtis Junior
Fixico (Snyder), Donna Marie
Fixico (Harjo), Kepsey Joyce
Fixico, (Spencer), Lenah
Fixico, Quinton Lee
Fixico, Taylor
Flesher, Imogene Louise
Fletcher, Dorothy Rachelle
Flory(Huckably), Hazel P.
Floyd, Phillip David
Fogel(Evans), Savannah Lee
Foley, Brian Lee
Foley, Charles Ray
Foley, Katrina Renee
Foley, Mark Anthony
Foley(Johnson), Sandra Jane
Folsum, Thresa Ann
Forbes(Johnson)Carolyn Lynn
Foreman(Hill), Katherine L.
Foreman, Konya Sue
Forsythe (Tiger), Ellen Kae
Foster, Brian Scott
Foster, Charles Arthur
Foster, David Ray
Foser, Dawn Ranee
Foster (Chouteau) Deanne M
Foster, Gary Leonard
Foster(Grayson) Little Cherry
Fowler(Freeman)Courtney M
Fox, Cynthia Jane
Fox, Micha Nelson
Foy, Travis Elroy
Frailey, Marcus Gene
Franchek (Summers), Cynthia
Francis, Hannah Elizabeth
Francis, Josphine
Francis, Mark
Francis, Wilma Fay
Francis, Victor Tony
Franks, Denise Renee
Franklin, Doby Dean
Fraser, Diane Mrie
Frazer, Clayton Mont
Frazier (Billie), Betty R.
Frazier (Archer), Debra Daye
Fream, Edward Lewis
Fream, Kim Kimbrow
Fream, Wendy La'Nell
Freeman, Donald Ethan
Freeman II, Jack Landrum
Freeman, Leola
Freeman, Ronald Gene
Freeman, Scott Emerson
Freeman, Vernon Bernard
Freeman, William Evertt
French, Aliz Gerald
French, Gara Lynn
Fruitt (Scott)Bernadette S.
Frye II, Ed Porter
Fritz, Darren Allen
Frye, Fannie
Frye, Johnny
Fryer(Brooks), Janet Kay
Fulwider, David Van
Funchess, Edward
Furr (Bruner), Claudette S.
Furr, Robert Benjamin
Gable Jr., James Curtis
Gable (Steed), Mattie L.
Gable (Wesley), Susie Anne
Garcia (Young), Deborah V.
Garrett (Goode) Bee Ethel
Garrett (Lewis), Eula Velma
Garris(Davis), Pamela Jean
Garrison (Anglen), Ruth
Gaston, Oliver Don
Gatzman Jr., Douglas Bailey
Gee, Carmen Kay
George, Addie Faye
George, Stephen Rufus
Geralis (Powell), Marsha L.
Geren(Lansford)Katherine C.
Germain, Todd Dane
Gibson, Albert Austin
Gideon, Michael Glen
Gibson(Freeman)Pamela Kay
Gibson, Sherrie Lousie
Gilbert, Elvin Harlen
Giles, Deana Paulette
Giles Jr., Thomas Edward
Gill, Angela Lee
Gilliam, Constance Daye
Gillispie (Daniel), Barbara J.
Gillispie, Larry Leon
Gillman, Lonnie Michael
Gilmore (Harjo), Rhayma K.
Gisler (Oliver), Dee Anna
Givens, Devan Renne
Givens, Donald
Givens, Melody Misty
Gladden (Lyle), Ida L.
Gladden, Jason Michael
Glasgow, Doris Marie
Glasco (Martin), Tonya D.
Glass, Steven Jonas
Goddard (East), Mary E.
Goff (Morris), Sandra Kay
Goke, Christopher J.
Golden, Joshua Eugene
Golden, Syawn Adam
Golden, Sonja Louise
Golden, Treasa Jo
Golightly, Kenneth Wayne
Goodman (Kelley), Brenda J
Goodvoice, Timothy
Gordon, John Harold
Gordon, Kacy Danelle
Gossett (Spitz), Carolyn Jane
Goudeau, Adrianne Renee
Goudeau, Jurlden
Gouge Jr., David Allen
Gouge, Melinda Jennifer
Gould, Rufus Dave
Gourd, Helen Marie
Grace (Larney), Monica M.
Graham, Brian Christopher
Graham (Foster) Kimberly S.
Grant (Berryhill), Margaret J.
Gray, Carrie Christine
Gray, Imogene
Gray, Robert Luther
Gray, Walter Eugene
Grayson, Cary Charles
Grayson Jr., Curtis Warren
Grayson, Doris Ann
Grayson, Martha Regina-Ray
Green, Joseph Gene
Green, Michael Ray
Green, Victor Anthony
Greenwood, Nona Lue
Greenwood, Heather K.
Gregory, Brooke Leigh
Gregory, Fletcher Raymond
Grice (Edwards), Bettie
Grice, Kathlene
Grider, Michael Allen
Griffin(Hodges)Kristina Paige
Griffin, Marla Jean
Griffith, Robert Joseph
Griffith, Tony Dee
Grimes(Herrod), Katie L.
Grissom, Dorotha Lorine
Grissom, John Edward
Grubbs, Darrel Eugene
Grummitt(Brown)Beverly A.
Grundy(Shannon)Pamela R.
Guess, Michael Lynn
Guevara, Kim Yvonne
Guild(Stockton), Virginia Ann
Gutierrez(Allen), Marcella L.
Haddox, Deborah Denise
Haddox, Kevin James
Haddox (Hardin), Marilyn D.
Haikey, Gladys Jenaette
Haikey, Larry David
Haikey, Nathan Paul
Hain, Richard Todd
Hale (Harjo), Bernice
Hale (Lunsford), Debbie Sue
Hale, David Robert
Hale, Heather Lee
Hale, James Donald
Hale (Merrell), Merci Lee
Hall (Harry), Arvie Elizabeth
Hall, Gordon Gale

Hall (Brinkley), Mary Ruth
Hallford, Lawrence
Hallford, Linda Kay
LeeHamblet, Frank Harold
Hamblet (Maloney), Ruby E.
Hamby (Boswell), Norma K.
Hamilton, Ladonna
Hammar, Jeffrey David
Hammar Jr., Michael Gene
Hammar, Michael Gene
Hammer(Dunford), Leigh Ann
Hammer-Vega, Kari Michelle
Hammon Jr., Bobby Louis
Hamon (Schrismher), Shona
Hancock, Ronnie Lee
Hanen (Schafer), Victoria E.
Hanely, Regina Lynn
Hansen (McIntosh), Janet G
Hanshaw, Frederick Jackson
Harback, Frank Dean
Harding, Eddie Ray
Hardin, Gary Wayne
Hardin, Ronald Coleman
Hardin, Ruby Ladonna
Hardridge, Jack Grover
Hare, Karie Ann
Harjo, Albert Lee
Harjo, April LeAnn
Harjo (Beaver), Betty
Harjo, Brandon Michael
Hajro, Charles Wayne
Harjo, Christopher Cole
Harjo, David Lee
Harjo, Dawn Michelle
Harjo, Delores June
Hajro, Donna Sue
Harjo, Douglas
Harjo, Estelline
Harjo, Geoffory James
Harjo, Jacob
Harjo, Joe
Harjo, Joseph Leon
Harjo, Kimberly Kaye
Harjo (Bigpond), Lannie P.
Harjo, Lawrence Dean
Harjo, Lillian
Harjo (Bullett), Loretta S.
Harjo, Michael Lee
Harjo, Morris
Harjo, Nakota
Harjo, Naomi Ruth
Harjo Jr., Newman
Harjo, Rhonda Dene
Harjo, Robbin Scott
Harjo, Roy Dean
Harjo, Stanley Lee
Harjo, Ted Wayne
Harjo Jr., Warren Eugene
Harjo, Willis Wayne
Harjo, Wilson Scott
Harjochee, Franklin Dean
Harjochee, Michael Adam
Harley, Cindy Joann
Harley, Jason Christopher
Harmon Sr., Benjamin
Harmon, Kelly Renee
Harness(Harjochee)Jennie M.
Harper, Christopher Travis
Harper, James Stephen
Harper, Terry Wayne
Harrell, Roy Don
Harrell, William Joel
Harris, Christine Thelma
Harris (Russell), Leva
Harris, Patricia Sue
Harris, Rena Elizabeth
Harris, Wilbert Erick
Harrison(Fisher)Connie Mae
Harrison, Joel Porch
Harrison, Misty Dawn
Harry, Betty Jo
Hart, Gregory Earl
Hart(Spaulding)Shawna S.
Hartung, Jeffrey Brian
Harvey (Haynes), Millie
Harvey (Doyle), Delphia
Harvey, Allen Ray
Harvey, Alpha Mae
Harvey, Lydia Daine
Harwell (McGirt), Judie E.
Harwell, Bobby Dean
Harwell, Gilbert Paige
Haschke(Turpin)Barbara S.
Hatcher(McCracy), Leslie K.
Hawkins Jr., Barney
Hawkins, Donald Phillip
Hawkins, Gary Eugene
Hawkins, Leta Suzann
Hawkins, Travis William
Hayes (Burgess), Lisa Ann
Hayes, David Henry
Hayhusrt, Benjamin Albert
Hayhusrt, Randell Ellis Haynes, Randall Lloyd
Haynes, Richard Thomas
Haynes, Richard Thomas
Haynes, Sherrie Lynn
Haynes, Vernon Haskell
Heater (Ross), Peggy Lynne
Heavener(Thornburg)Sharee
Heinbach (Tompkins), Susan
Henderson, William Virgil
Hendrix (Harvey), Janice
Heneha, Norman Jason
Hengst, JamesBryan
Henneha, Laura Beth
Henry, Connie Rene
Henry, Johnie William
Henry, Stephen Gregory
Henry, Tiffany Ann
Herbert (Quick)Jenea L.
Hernandez, Carlos Ray
Hernandez, Liza Jane
Herring (Polk), Juliana Lyn
Herrod (Coachman)Camille A
Herrod, Frances Ann
Herrod, Johnathan
Herrod, Lanny Chris
Herron, Michael Wesley
Hester, Robert Joe
Hicks, Brandon Joe
Hicks, Eric Allen
Hicks, Gary Dean
Hicks, Joseph Monroe
Hicks Jr., Lloyd
Hicks, Michael Keith
Hicks (Wright), Shelia
Hicks, Suzanne
Hightower, Marylou
Hildreth, Kritsi Jo
Hill (Joy), Joann
Hill, Wayland Jess
Hill, Clark Elliott
Hill, Clinton Eugene
Hill, Commey
Hill, Jacqueline Rae
Hill, Melinda Sue
Hill, Ronald Eugene
Hill, Stevenson James
Hill, Tamara Denise
Hines Jr., Leo Walker
Hise, Nicki Lee
Hitchcock, Nancy Lynn
Hixson (Butler), Karen M.
Hoard (Porterfield), Stacie
Hobbs (Scantlen), Leann
Hobia, Kelly Sue
Hobia, Tiger Ray
Hodgden, Jennifer Joyce
Hodge, Billy Gene
Hodge, Floyd Wayne
Hodge, Jerry Wade
Hodge, Joshua Lee
Hodge, Kelly Denise
Hoffman (Sevier), Judy Irene
Hoffman (Wheeler), Loretta F
Hoffpauir, Robert Tyler
Hogshooter Jr., Robert
Holata, Jamie Ernestine
Holata, John Topley
Holata, Louis
Holdridge, Brandon Shayne
Holcomb, Mary Ann
Holladay, Robert Douglas
Holland(Apoika)Marjorie R.
Hollestelle, James Daniel
Holleyman, Henry Hudson
Holleyman, Henry Michael
Holloway, Gwen Marie
Holmes(Musgrove) Shirley A
Holt (Dice), Hazel Marie
Holuby, Monty Joe
Holmes (Jones), Rebecca
Hood, Barry Keith
Hood, Rachel Nicole
Hipe, Beaden Franklin
Hopgood (Long), Adrianne M
Hopper (Webb), Carla Elaine
Horlin (Murphy), Madline
Horn(Artussee)Adrian A
Horton, Artie Raynell
Horton,Charlottee Eliza G.
Horton, Heather Denise
Horton, Neta Jane
House, Brian Lee
Hovell(Chambers)Diana Pearl
Howard, Kimberly Roxanne
Howard, Larry Ray
Howe Jr,, Elliott Hampton
Howell, Brenda Sue
Hubbard, Louanna Marie
Huckaby Jr. William
Hueston (Davis), Jamie Dee
Huffman, Ralph Wayne
Hughes, James Robert
Hughes, Keven Duane
Hull, William Loren
Hulsey, Harry James
Hulstine (Aultman), Susan A.
Hummingbird(Givens), Gwen
Humphrey (Pittman), Lois
Humphreys, Rebecca
Hunt, Alan Girad
Hunt, David Easton
Hunt (McCoy), Frances Diana
Hunt, Scott Anthony
Hunt, Thomas Roy
Hunt, William Crawford
Hunter Jr., Frank John
Hunter (Chase), Karen Joyce
Hunter, John Howard
Hunter-Law, Michele Diane
Hurd, Gwendolyn Ann
Hurd, Terry Joe
Hurt, Aaron Christopher
Hurt, Anglea Christine
Hutson (Peck), Myrna J.
Hyde, Richard Ross
Ickes (Tiger), Shonna Maru
Inderlied (Tarvin), Karen E.
Indian, Evangelina Atlethia
Ingram, Dana Leigh
Ingran, Warren Todd
Irish (Nelson), Linda Kay
Ishmael (Bunny), Maxine
Ivey, Kathleen S.
Jack Jr., Everett Lee
Jackson (Hughes), Betty Sue
Jackson Jr., Clifford Odean
Jackson, Dave
Jackson, Donna Sue
Johnson, Geneva
Jackson, Heather Michele
Jackson, Jimmie Wayne
Jackson, Karlata Jane
Jackson, Kelley Ray
Jackson, Phillip David
Jackson Jr., Phillip David
Jackson Sr., Robert D.
Jackson (Lee), Ronda Carole
Jackson, Shannon Renee
Jackson, Shannon Renee
Jackson, Shelly Lynn
Jackson (Screffler), Shirley
Jackson, Timothy Andrew
Jacobs, John Alexander
Jacobs, Linda
Jacobs, Mary Elizabeth
Jacobs, William R.
Jaggars (Golden) Dawn Irene
James (Cole), Cynthia Diane
James Jr., Randy Delaine
James, Diane Lynnette
James, Robert Edward
James, William Douglas
Jenkins, William Lance
Jennings(Tarpalechee)Teresa
Jennings, Kirby Lee
Jihad (Leathers), Roshell
Jimboy, Jay Martin
JImboy, Marcy
Jimboy (Berryhill), Tonya R.
Jobe, Delilah Marie
John, David Loren
John, Mary
Johnson, Allegra Huberta
Johnson, Andrea Lynn
Johnson, Erwin Jan
Johnson, Eugenia Patrice
Johnson, Gary
Johnson, Gregory Wade
Johnson, (Turbow), Joann
Johnson, Joseph
Johnson, Kenneth
Johnson, Kimberly Ann
Johnson III, Little Tommy
Johnson(Roberts)Lucinda W.
Johnson, Mary Blenda
Johnson, Michael Kolby
Johnson Jr., Rodney Martin
Johnson Jr., Thomas Lee
Johnson Sr., Tony
Johnson, Twana Janella
Johnston (Jones), Tina S
Jones, Alysia Marie
Jones, Bobby Ray
Jones, Bonnie Lynn
Jones, Charles Allen
Jones, Christopher Graig
Jones, Edward Donnell
Jones, Jack David
Jones, Jameel Riley
Jones (Watson), Jay Michael
Jones Jr., Jesse Allen
Jones (Toler) Kelli Jolleen
Jones, Kenneth Russell
Jones, Lin Wallace
Jones, Loper
Jones (Sutton), Oquilla Louise
Jones, Patrick Wayne
Jones, Roxanne Lynn
Jones, Shannon Kay
Jones Jr., Walter
Jones, William Arthur
Jordan, Clifford Laverne
Jordan (Monroe), Jennifer D.
Joseph, Danny Jose
Joseph, Matthew Alan
Joyner, Martin Christopher
July, Florence Marie
July (Postoak), Tressia L.
Juneau, Dennis Theodore
Juneau, Douglas Charles
Juneau, Rhonda Joy
Kamp,Reuben Thomas

Kamp, Robert Arthur
Kassim(Hale)Audie Jacqueline
Katcv, Freeman Mitchell
Keaoug (Stomski), Evelyn J.
Keele, Valace Mrion
Keeler, Edgar Lee
Keene (Morrison), Lora Lois
Keepers, Melisa Lynn
Keifer (Williams) Johnnie M
Keith (Grice), Sandra Kay
Keith, Gregory Allen
Kellehan, Carla Dawn
Kellehan (Hawkins),Paula J
Kelley, Loretta Ilene
Kellogg, (Radtke), Ronda R.
Kelly, Bill Dean
Kelly (Pittman), Dina Kaye
Kelly, Judy Ann
Kelough, Jimmy David
Kenney(Brown)Sandra Marie
Kennon, Gary Brian
Kernal, Harry
Kerns (Hensley)Charlotte A.
Kerr, Marc Randen
Ketchum(Schneider)Gladys
Key (Nelson), Tammy Joyce
Kezer, Bryan David
Kilpatrick III, Albert Lee
Kimble, Travis Lynn
King (Harjo), Nadine
King (Jones), Joanna Lynn
King (Long), Letha Lee
King, Dale Edward
King, Gerald Lee
King, Michael Eugene
King, Michael Jeffrey
King, Tara Ann
King-Simmons, Carolyn
Kinne(Alden) Christena Sue
Kirkland, Steven Blaine
Klein, Casandrs Lee
Knight, Jackson Ray
Knight (Beaver), Carol Denise
Knotts (Allen), Juanita Louise
Knox, Clyde Douglas
Knox, David Lee
Knox, Michael Wayne
Koch, Paul Brandon
Korgan (Rich), Jaime Danielle
Kuykedall, Malinda Lee
Lacey, Starr Dawn
Lackey, Billy Joe
Ladd, Michael Lawrence
LaDeaux(Johnson),Gwendolyn
Lamar (Davis), Malissie
Land, Dinah K.
Landis II, William Edward
Lane (Bricker), Paula Jo
Lane (King), Lila Ann
Langston, Lahoma M.
Langston, Phillip Douglas
Langston, Richard Douglas
Lanham, Larry Lee
Lanier, Lisa Michelle
Lansford, Kevin Bryon
Lara (Fixico), Wynona
Larew, Carol Sue
Large (McLain), Stephanie A.
LaSarge(Gambler)Franstella
LaSarge, Carmon Danielle
Latchaw(McMullen)Raelyn
LaValley, Thomas Lawton
Layman, Gwenevere
Layton, Rachel Lee-Ann
Leach, Loretta Sue
Leader, Cynthia Lynn
Leader-Harley, Brigita Sue
Leamon (Green), Betty Sue
Leard, DaleLee
Leard, Lane Manchie
Ledger, Tina Michelle
Lee, Andrew Dean
Lee, Brian Duane
Lee, James Wesley
Lee, Kyle Wayne
Lee, Ricky James
Legrand(Tecumseh), Lahoma
Leitka, Joseph Timothy
Lena, Linda Lou
Leek, Michelle Lynn
Lena, Louis
Lena, Mark D.
Lester(Hayden) Betty Jane
Levecque(Whitecotton)Patricia
Levy, David Benjamin
Lewis, Bryan L.
Lewis, Clifford Dale
Lewis, Cynthia Lynn
Lewis, Daniel Lewallen
Lewis, James Randall
Lewis, Jessie Wayne
Lewis, Jimmy David
Lewis, Lizzie
Lewis (Hutchins), Tina Jo
Lewis, William Russell
Lidyard(Hansard)Pamela J.
Lile (Henson), Janet Ruth
Lillegard, Robert Eugene
Lindsey (Buckley), Alice Mae
Lingerfelt(Harjo) Bobbie Jean
Lipp (Gilbert), Serena K
Little(Bruner), Debbie Kay
Little (Watt), Donna Gail
Little , Jerry Joe
Little, Kendall Jay
Littleaxe(Hill), Shelley Sue
Littlehead, William Bill
Littlesun, Nowa
Livingston, Jessica Lea
Lollman (Gilroy), Cheri Joann
Loney, Timothy James
Long (Vines), Alivia Ann
Long, Bobbie Jo
Long, Dana Eugene
Long, Darlene Joann
Long, Leslie Ray
Long, Penny Ann
Lovelace (Adam), Charlene C.
Loven (Brady), Linda Kay
Lovett (Crofut), Donna Luann
Lowe, Freeman
Lowe, Michael Gene
Lowell(Schneider)Gloria M.
Lower, Vickie Angelyne
Lowery, Elsie Mae
Lowery Jr., Lee Allen
Lowery(Tiger)Ruby Thelma
Loyd, Barry Wendell
Loyd, Bobby David
Lozier, Karen Dee
Lozier, Shawn Lynn
Lucas, Robert Jesse
Luce, Gladys Mae
Lugo, Billie Joe
Luke (Martin), Mary Ruth
Lukens(Robinson), Tina June
Lunsford, Esther Sue
Luster, Melissa Ann
Lusty, Lorene
Lutz(McNeese),Marla Jenee
Lyon, Phillip Earl
Mackey, Karen Yvonne
Madrid (Lane), Lori Anne
Mahee Jr., Otis
Mahlen (Mays), Peggy Lee
Mahoney, Asil Pete
Mahurin(Ford)Beverly Guinn
Manaia (Burton), Linda Lee
Manion, Casey Sean
Mann (Bruner), Martha L.
Mann(Castleberry)Terry Lee
Mapes(Zimmerman)Billy J.
Mapes, Ivan Franklin
Markland (Dazzler), Hannah
Marr (Chisholm), Shelly Kay
Marris (Hawkins) Louise
Marshall (Marks), Leona Mae
Marshall, Lean Louis
Marshall, Michael
Marshall, Nokosiee Lee
Marshall, Semary Ann
Martin(Evans)Clista Clovedell
Martin (Farris), Jane Anne
Martin, Kimberley Lashawn
Martin (Reily), Luwana Kay
Martin, Rex Allen
Martin Jr., Robert Charles
Martin, Rosa Mary
Mason(Aultman)Donna Lea
Mason, Jackelyn Marie
Mason, Edward James
Mason (Chance), Nancy Sue
Master)Anquino)Luzvimenda
Maston Jr., Coyce
Matheson(Barnett)Katrina D.
Mathew, Barbara Kay
Matin, Elizabeth Anne
Matinez (Fish), Angela D.
Matthew, Charles Dwayne
Matthew (Joyce), Shirley A.
Maxwell, Mario Dewayne
May (Martin), Bekki Jean
Mayer (Harrell), Jeania Ann
Mayfield (Benson), Barbara
Mayfield(Scott), Rosezella
Mays, Paula Rilene
McAfee (Whitson) Martha
Mc Alster, Lanita Kaye
McBride(Murphy), Erma Jean
McBride (Fields), Marcella F.
McCabe, Terry
McCampbell(Johnson)Sheila
McCarty, Eldridge Deon
McCarty, Kevin Drew
McCaslin, Janie Birdie Mae
McClain Jr., John Albert
McCloskey(Thomas), Barbara
McCloskey, Trix Leann
McClung III, Charles Edward
McClure, Betty Jane
McConnell, Anne Ashley
McConnell, Michael Steven
McCosar, James Patrick
McCosar, Janie Ruth
McCosar(McCombs), Vivian
McCoy JR., Melvin Murrel
McCulley, Minnie Lou
McCutcheon, Carol Joan
McCutcheon, Daniel rian
McCutcheon, Samuel Richard
McDowell, Amber Toy
McElroy, James Edward
McElroy, Timothy Wayne
McFarland, James C.
MeGee (Bruner), Jo Ann
McGehee(Barnett)Marsha K
McGhee (Johnson), Elizabeth
McGilbra, James Louis
McGilbray, Stanley Frank
McGinnis, Shannon Denise
McGuire, Annette Starr
McIntosh, Debra Kay
McIntosh, Delois
McIntosh, Elijah Willis
McIntosh, Misty Lee
McIntosh, Ned Emerson
McIntosh, Tyloa Louise
McKellip, Janice Hope
McKnight, Jan Kathryn
McLaughlin, Debbie Dee Ann
McLaurin Sr., Donald R.
McLaurin, Velma Jene
McLean (Foster), Nancy E.
MeLemore, Jerri Lynn
McMahan, David Shane
McMahan (Barnes), Joyce
McMahan, Sheryl Lynn
McNac, Georgia Ann
McNac, Mathenia Louise
McNack Jr., Alex
McNeese, Robert Allen
McQuarie, Robert James
McQueen (Estle), Dana Rai
McVeigh, Darie Dawn
Meely, Randella Deeanne
Meitler (Harris), Jacquire L.
Melson III, William Alexander
Mendoza, Robert Rayaldo
McNevins, Richard Lee
Merkey (Grayson), Gayla D.
Merrell Jr., John Hiram
Merrell, Jennifer Lynn
Meyer, Charles Warren
Meyer, Rodney Wayne
Middleton, Amanda Jeanette
Middleton Jr., James E.
Milan, Jane Elizabeth
Miller Jr., Carl Eugene
Miller, Carol Lynn
Miller Jr., Coydell
Miller, Claude Ernest
Mill (Gray), Deanna Lee
Miller, Howard Eugene
Miller, Jerry Denise
Miller, Jimmy Lee
Miller, Robert Chance
Miller, Ronnie Eddie
Mills, David Lawrence
Millwee (Willmon), Teresa D.
Minnix, Erin Kristin
Minter, George Arthur
Minter, Marilyn
Minter, Nancy
Mirabal(Boyd)Charleen K
Mitchell, Byron Lee
Mitchell, Christopher Shane
Mitchell (Herrod), Minnie R.
Moffer (McCoy), KarenJean
Moffer Jr., Eddie James
Monday, Camella
Monday, Louis Ray
Moore Jr., David Glen
Monroe, James Richard
Montgomery(Rogers) Christine
Montgomery, Mary Jo
Monts, Jeanetta Livia
Monahwee, Anthony Wayne
Mooney, Kelli Dawn
Moore (Anderson), Anna
Moore, Albert Daniel
Moore, Damon Dion
Moore (Cole), Deana Sue
Moore, James Aaron
Moore, James Edwin
Moore, Jimmie Dee
Moore, Kelley Roberta
Moore (Harjo), Leah Marie
Moore, Lori Denise
Moore, Robert Jack
Moore, William Beaver
Moore, William Roy
Moores, Rohn Eric
Morgan(Johnson)Barbara J.
Morgan, John Robert
Morgan, Todd Howitt
Morris, Cassandra Lashae
Morris, Georgette Eugenia
Morris, Joseph Narvell
Morris, Kenneth
Morris-Therwood, Chris S.
Morrow(McIntosh)Denise D.
Morser (Bruner), Marilyn L.
Morton IV, Charles Milan
Moses (Adams), Cynthia R.
Moses (Yargee), Wanda Jean

Mount, Kimberly Gayle
Muller (Elsey), Pauline
Mulliniks(Tolbert)Judy D.
Murdoch, Bruce Thomas
Murdock (Loar)Barbara Ann
Murphy, Aubrey Gene
Murphy(Hunter)Carole Sue
Murphy III, Frank Willie
Murphy, Phillip Ray
Murphy, Robert Wayne
Musick, Meridith Ann
Musick, William Patrick
Mustari, Carmen Joseph
Myers (Frazier), Gay Lucille
Myers, Betty Ann
Najer (Burleson), Vickie L.
Narcomey, Anthony Mark
Narcomey(Lewis)Blanche A.
Narcomey, Georgia Ann
Nations, Angela Trish
Navarro, Lisa Marie
Neafus, Jerry Don
Neal, Richard Allen
Nease(Mouse), Viola Marie
Nededog(Belter)Carol Lynne
Nelson, Robert Glen
Nero Jr., Joseph Lee
Nester(Gray),Ramona Faye
Newberry, Larry Fletcher
Newport (Buckner), Margie
Newberry, Randall Royce
Newman, (Watson), Pyllis J.
Newrider (Pidgeon) Tina Lee
Nichols, David Richard
Nickell Jr., Maynard Kelly
Ninsey, Brook Reed
Nipper, Bonita Kay
Nix, Crystal Jane
Nix, Robert Stephen
Nixon, Kelly Hean
Nokushutche, Pzce Hutke
Noon, Joyce Kogee
Noon, Michael Timothy
Noon Jr., Nathan
Noon, Steven
Nordlund (Burton), Judith R.
Noriega, Manuel
Norris (Stacy), Florence K.
Northcutt, Eldon Lee
Northcutt, Jogbodie Marie
Nowlen(Hansard)Patricia A.
Nunn, Alena Michelle
O'Connor (Wright), Kellie L.
O'Donnell(Hodges)Shonda K.
O'Field, Jackie
O'Mahony (Brown), Robin D.
Obregon (Berryhill), Vicki L.
Ochoa (Harjo), Katherine E.
Odom, Michael Wayne
Odom, Ruth Ann
Olansen, Diana
Oliver(McConnell)Mary Carol
Oliver, Jacky Clenton
Oliver, Larry Leon
Olsen (Self), Carrie Lei
Olsen, Jerone Andrew
Orcutt, Charles Lee
Orcutt, Roy Dean
Orr, Sally Shannon
Orr, Thomas Sidney
Osborne, Jennifer Raylnn
Osterhoudt(George)Marilyn
Overstreet(Pittman)Deborah
Owens, Danny Floyd
Owen, Janet Kay
Pace (Seymour) Frances Lee
Pace, Robert Eugene
Painter(McIntosh)Kellie Rae
Palmer(Burris)Jo Stephanie
Palmer, Charles David
Palmer, Kimberly Rae
Pangle, Catherine Ann
Panoske, Lou Alice
Parker (Scott), Carolyn Gayle
Parker, David Graham
Parker, Jacob Charles
Parker Jessica Arlene
Parnosky, Kevin Wayne
Parris, Alan Bruce
Partee, David Wayne
Partee (Grayson)Lorraine
Partridge, James Michael
Pass, Amanda Lynn
Pass (Stacy), Marion Lee
Passah (Gouge), Betty Jean
Payne(Young)Lauren Cecelia
Pearce(Bruner)Charlotte A.
Pearson (Morgan), Mary E.
Pearson, Rickey Don
Pease, Ronnie Anthony Perkins, James Newberry
Peck, Gary Don
Pedigo (Ansiel), Tracie Alice
Pelts (Turner), Deborah
Pemberton, Sally Ann
Pena, Anthony Timothy
Pender (Coffee), Esther Lee
Pendergrass(Deere)Dee Anna
Pendleton, David Anson
Penn (Anderson), Josephine
Perkins (Hutton), Lucy M.
Perkins, Jason Robert
Perry(Alexander)Emma Jayne
Perry, James Cline
Perryman Jr., Henry Clay
Perryman, Kyle Arden
Perryman, Lyle Arden
Perryman, Paul Kevin
Perryman Jr., Phillip Ward
Perryman, Thomas Eugene
Peterson (Perryman), Shelley
Peterson, Stacey Dale
Peyton (Tiger), Elouise
Phillips, Bill
Phillips Jr., Joe Edward
Phillips, Teresa Lynn
Pickard (Smith) Yvonne
Pickering, Timothy
Pigeon, Billy Ray
Pigeon, Kimberly Rena
Pigeon, Oscar Buck
Pigeon, Priscilla Lynn
Pigeon, Tina Marie
Pilant, Mark Anthony
Pilcher(Nichols)Helaina R.
Pinney Jr., Dale Martin
Pitre, Stella Louise
Pittman Jr., Bennie Duane
Pittman, Eddie Jeffery
Pittman, Ethel
Pittman, Jay W.
Pittman, Johnny Leonard
Pittman, Michael Jay
Pittman, Michael Gene
Pittman, Paul Trammell
Pittman, Tommy Dale
Plevel, Steven Earl
Plummer, Merlyn Douglas
Pindexter(Richards), Tonya
Polk(Compton)Crystal Gail
Polk, Calvin Benjamin
Polk, Duane Anthony
Pool(Hailey), Helen Mae
Pope (Scott), Maria
Porter (Tucker), Edna Marie
Porter, Freeling Alex
Postoak, Wand Mae
Pounds, Dennis L'Roi
Pouter(Bowman)Shirley Kay
Powell, Anita Sue
Powell, Danny
Powell, Sandy
Powers (Collins)Carolyn S.
Powers, Jennifer Lorraine
Poyndexter, Marion Yvonne
Prater(Thomas), Juanita D.
Prentice(Tiger)Shaunna M.
Prevett, Dale Alan
Price, Heather Jean
Price, Michael Douglas
Prince, Monte Lee
Pridemore(Cvey)Bonnie Lee
Primeaux, Jamima Louise
Primeaux, Micky
Prince(Morrison)Lula Mildred
Pringle, Kelli Lynn
Proctor, Benny Ray
Proctor (Harjo) Bernice
Proctor, Etta Luretha
Proctor, Fannie Lydia
Proctor, Franklin D.
Proctor, Jarrod
Proctor, Jonas Lee
Proctor, Lewis Newcus
Proctor, Louisa Kay
Proctor, Marcus Wayne
Proctor, Patty Jo
Proctor, Stephanie Leasa
Pullen(Campbell),Cathy Cheri
Purdin, Tony Allen
Quapaw, Terry Lee
Quick Jr., William Henry
Quinones, Raymond Anthony
Radike, Edward Jay
Raines (Brasuell), Mitzi Lee
Rakestraw, Barbara Lynn
Rakestraw, Beatrice Grace
Ramirez (Bear), Rachel
Ramirez(Morgan)Amanda Jo
Ramsey(Ceasar)Mildredge Z.
Ramsey (Gabler), Treca Ann
Randall, Mickey Dimaggio
Randall, Rodney Frank
Randall, Rodney Mitchell
Randall, Ronald Lee
Randle (Morris), Tammy E.
Randolph, Jan Lunn
Rame (Hunter), Joetta Gail
Rash, Ramona Renee
Ray, Alecia Gail
Ray, Patricia Elizabeth
Ray (Goode), Shirley Irene
Red Eagle (Bear), Cherly A.
Red Elk (Ray) Frances Eileen
Redeker(Gordon), Cathy Ann
Reed Jr., Frank Milton Pat
Reed, Charles William
Reed (Roe), Sharon Elaine
Reeder(McGirt),Deborah Ann
Reel(Pittman), DonnaShierie
Rehling (Benham) Melinda Jo
Reiner, Joshua Mikael
Reins, Donette Ann
Revis, Annella Marie
Revis, Sammie Charles
Reyes, Randell
Rhyne (Hayes) Elouise
Rhynes (Bradsher) Lisa Ann
Rich(Danenet), Whitney L.
Richards, Ruby Dale
Richardson, Misty Dawn
Richardson, Valerie Kaye
Richardson, Victor Lloyd
Ridenhour (Thomas), Linda S.
Ridley (Neal), Loretta Irene
Riggle (Hannan), Ella Ruth
Riley, James glen
Riley, Mekko Tarpalechee
Riley, Richard Earl
Rinehart, Richard Charles
Rinehart, Ronald Thomas
Rinehart, Russell Fred
Rippee(Walker), RobinLee
Risenhoover(Stubblefield) Shirley
Roach, Damon Bradley
Roach, Kevin Ward
Roberson(Lantz)Kiley Nicole
Roberts Jr., James Carrol
Roberts, Elizabeth Ann
Roberts, Iva Lynn
Roberts (Shepherd), May
Roberts, Merna Lyn
Roberts, Richard Joseph
Robinson (Schimmel), Amy C.
Robinson(Tiger) Emma Jeane
Robinson, Jimmy Lee
Robinson, Orick Henri
Robinson(Fortune)Rosalious
Robison, Joshua Randall
Robison, Patsy Wynema
Rodgers, Sharlinda Lynn
Rogers (Bales), Lillie Leona
Rogers Jr., Norman Leo
Rolland, Robert Glenn
Rometo, Faith Patricia
Romig, Douglas Dean
Rooks, Brenda Carol
Rooks, Ellis Bobby
Rosborough (Pittman)Debra
Rose Jr., Dayton Morrison
Rose, Roger Phillip
Ross, Charlotte Kay
Ross, Eric Dale
Ross, Robert Eugene
Roughface Jr., Alva Eugene
Rowe, Christine Michelle
Rozell, Stephanie Kaye
Rumsey, Monty Cole
Russell, Cindy Renn
Russell (Reeder), Erica M.
Ryan(Robison)Rebecca Rene
Ryder, Carol Sue
Sala, Galen Dewayne
Saline Jr., Stevin Jay
Sample, Elizabeth Ann
Sampson III, William
Samuels (Robbins)Terri Lynn
Sands, Tony Ray
Sanders (Lowery), Annette R.
Sanders, James Lee
Sanders, Polly Patrick
Sands, Rickey Lee
Sands, Robert Lemley
Sanford (Kasper), Tressa Lynn
Sanger, David Fenton
Sappington(Helscel)Sherry L.
Sapulpa, Melssa Chutkee
Sapulpa, Scott Omiya
Sapulpa, Sean Choposka
Sarracino(Bruner), Leah M
Sarty, James Monroe
Schanks, Billy Lee Wayne
Schanks, Shirlene Gail
Schave(Martin)Carmela Sue
Schiele, Jennifer Ann
Schmidt (Cole)Jeannene E
Schmidt, David Bruce
Schoonover II, Vernon G.
Schreiner(Holleyman)Rhoda
Schultz(Robison) Judy Lee
Schupman(McIntosh)Marquerite
Schwartz, Roger Blane
Scott(Battles)Barbara Maxine
Scott, Brummett Delray
Scott, Jim
Scott, Joe Mack Cott
Scott, Michael James
Scott, Ricahrd Wayne
Scott, Robert Lynn
Scott (Adsit), Roby Patricia
Scott, Samuel Nathaniel
Scott (Ellis), Sarah Alice
Scott, Tommy Joe

Scott (Marks), Wanda Faye
Scott Jr., Willmott Collins
Scroggins Jr., Richard David
Seacat, Harry Joseph
Seiler(Keener) Cynthia Marie
Seitz (Lieber), Betty Ann
Seitz, Robert Joseph
Self, Brett Nelson
Self, Dan John
Self, Michael Delbert
Self, Ruben Delbert
Self, Ruben Kevin
Settle, Lisa Anne
Severs, Christine Elouise
Seymour, Mark Wayne
Shamp(Robertson)Ruth L
Shankles(Waggoner)Janet
Shannon, Leonard Ralph
Sharp(Posey), Geneva V.
Sharp, Alvin Willard
Sharp, Connie Lynn
Sharp, Donald W.
Sharp, Jim
Shaw, John Richard
Shawnee, Echo Maren
Shawnee, Sierra Lauren
Sheldon(Crooks), Colleen J.
Shell(Holland)Joyce Elaine
Shell, Vicki Lynne
Shelley(Wilkins)Marilyn L.
Sheppard, Betty June
Sheridan(Apoika)Dovie Lue
Shields(Stone)Suzanne E.
Shinogee, Edward Samuel
Shipley, Marjproe Keam
Shirley, Ashley Danielle
Shobe(Berryhill)Nancy Jo
Shope(Birdsong), Wanda
Short, Gerri Lynn
Showman, Thomas Ryan
Shuffield, Michael Eugene
Sides, Clinton Patrick
Simmons, Robert Cale
Simon (Davidson), Lahoma
Simonds(Faggen)Patricia A
Simpson, Charles Desmond
Simpson Jr., Edward
Simpson, William Andres
Sinohui, Gwendolyn
Skaggs, Jerry Kim
Slagle (Bell) Norma Foustine
Slay (Hester), sue Ann
Slayden (Barnett), Leola M.
Slinker Jr., Charles (Chuck)
Sloan, David Shane
Sloan, Ladonna Kay
Smalley, Gerald Dewayne
Smith(Stephens)Bonnie R.
Smith, Brent Willis
Smith (Baker), Cheryl Lynn
Smith, Clayton Allen
Smith, David Dale
Smith Jr. Donald Dale
Smith, Jan Elizabeth
Smith(Washington)Jo Lynn
Smith, Johnson
Smith(Collins)Laura Shannon
Smith(Ishmael)Linda Lee
Smith(Tiger)Louise Mania
Smith, Melinda Jane
Smith, Melinda Suzanne
Smith, Myra Lorelei
Smith, Natasha Jill
Smith, R. C.
Smith(Wacoche)Ruby Dee
Smith(Hedge)Tammy Lou
Smith (Dewoody), Terri L.
Smith(Golden)Terina Jean
Smith, Thomas Keith
Smithee, Derek Ron
Smithee, Kirk Renee
Smoot, Aimee Christin
Smoot, Jerry Doyle
Smoot, Mary Kathrine
Snelling (Marks), Judy Ann
Snyder (Harper) Linda Dianne
Snyder, Lydia Gale
Snyder (Reel), Shelly Lynn
Sorensen, Harold Raymond
Southerland Jr., Ebbin Raney
Sowell, David Buck
Spain(Harjochee)Julia J
Spain, Jerry Wayne
Spain, Michelle Lynn
Spear (McKany), Alta Lee
Spear, Kevan Luke
Spear, Kimmy Lynn
Speer (McElroy), Julie Ruth
Spencer (Gilbert), Laura Ruth
Spottedbird(Chalakee)Rita
Springer, Kyle Benson
Sprinkle(Alexander)Linda D.
Stacy(Beauford)Florence A.
Stafford, Jackie Dean
Staggs(Moore) Dorothy Rene
Standley, Fred Smith
Stanke, Donad Edward
Stanley (Wray), Jewell Ruth
Stanley, David Ray
Stanton, Terri Lynn
Stapp, Clint Gene
Starkey, Ryan Joseph
Starks Jr., Gordon Bond
Starks, Donette Cecile
Starr, Allene Marie
Starr, Douglas
Starr, Michael Dewayne
Steele (Scott) Wynema E
Stefanek, Kenneth Thomas
Steger (Harwell), Shelley D
Stephens, Bert Aralando
Stephens, John Matthew
Stephens Jr., John Whitman
Stephens, Lena Mae
Stephens, Richard Cornell
Stephens Jr., Robert Donald
Stephens, Roy Lee
Stevens, Donna Sue
Stevenson, Majel Lu
Steward(Moore)Deborah D.
Stewart(Smith)Laura Elaine
Stewart, Robert Frank
Stidham, Susan Lynn
Stoebner, Terry Edward
Stomski, Terry
Stone, Jerry Leon
Streeval(Harrell)Janet Ann
Stroble, Caroyn Sue
Stubbs(Breshears)Kathy Lynn
Stuckely Jr., Charles Eudel
Sugar Jr., Christopher
Sullins, Roger William
Sullivan(Butler)Mary Suzanne
Sullivan, Polly Elizabeth
Sulphur, Frederick Manuel
Summers, Sarah Elizabeth
Sunday, Bob Leon
Sunday, Dena Kay
Sutton, Terry Lee
Sutton, Tina Merle
Sutton, Ronnie Clyde
Swearengin(Gurtier)Shelly A
Switzerm Brian Wade
Swope, Tyler James
Syfert(Stanke)Dolores Jean
Tabor (Tinney), Nancy C.
Talamasy, Ladena Ruth
Talley (Billie), Loretta Faye
Tanner, Ramona Jane
Tarkington (York), Marilyn J.
Tarkington, Tammy Lee
Tate, Kiana Lynn
Tate, Jennifer Rachel
Taylor, Albert
Taylor (Escoe), Christine A.
Taylor (Haikey), Connie R
Taylor, Debra Marie
Taylor, Florence Ernestine
Taylor (Bell), Joyce Ruth
Taylor, Justin Ray
Taylor (Cole), Nellie
Taylor, Patricia
Taylor(Hardesty)Patsy Carol
Taylor, Ronica Alisha
Taylor, Suzanne Elaine
Taylor, Tara Faye
Taylor, Tyrone Dane
Taylor, William Kenneth
Teague, Janice Marie
Teague, Renita Marie
Tecumseh, Lisa June
Tecumseh, Katherine Loren
Temple II, John Arthur
Tennant(Brockman)Sharon
Terrell(Doty)Sandra Eileen
Terry, Frank Amos
Thames, Barbara Jane
Thasiah(McCutcheon)Billie F.
Theus, Lajeune Joann
Thomas, Brenda Kay
Thomas, Carla Jean
Thomas, Eddie Leroy
Thomas, Emmet Eugene
Thomas, Leslie Mack
Thomas, Lori Michelle
Thomas(Toggle) Maurietta A.
Thomas (Freenam,)Shirley A.
Thomas, Vanessa Kaye
Thomas, Victor Alan
Thompson (Caesar)Franzetta
Thompson Jr., Marshall
Thompson, Gregory Earl
Thompson, Joyce Gwen
Thompson, Larry Don
Thompson, Melanie Rae
Thompson, Melville Don
Thompson, Pamela
Thompson, William Lewis
Thornburg, Linda Lou
Tibbs Jr., Isaac William
Tibbs, Anthony Hero
Tibbs, Richard Lawrence
Tiger, Alice Renee
Tiger, Angela Marie
Tiger, Anthony Lee
Tiger, Artman
Tiger (Bevenue)Barbara A.
Tiger, Billy George
Tiger, Carolyn Rene
Tiger, Darrell Wayne
Tiger, Doris Gail
Tiger, Elizabeth Diane
Tiger, Guyasuta Askoti
Tiger, Harold Charles
Tiger, Keith Johnson
Tiger, Kimberly Nan
Tiger (Kelley) Kizzie
Tiger (Wolf), Lucy May
Tiger, Mark Edward
Tiger, Mary Evelyn
Tiger, Michael James
Tiger, Miller James
Tiger, Paul Alex
Tiger, Phillip Cherokee
Tiger, Roman Kent
Tiger, Ruth Ann
Tiger, Satonshi Maryon
Tiger, Shawn Annette
Tiger, Stanley
Tiger, Timothy Rush
Tiger, Trischane Gunits
Tiger III, Yahola Anthony
Tilley, Benjamin
Tilley, Jason Charles
Tilley, Thomas Eugene
Tilley (Foster), Wanda L.
Tilley, Zelva Lee
Timken (Mann) Jennifer M.
Timms (Dick), Ruth Jean
Timothy, Moses
Timothy, William Scott
Tipton (Story), Karen Ann
Todd, Wanda June
Tolbert, Leonard Harvey
Toblert, Shawn Ray
Torbett, Russell Bryon
Toledo(Thomas)Shirley Ann
Tolle, Leanna Marie
Tom, Jennifer Alayne
Tomassi, David Albert
Tomassi, Deborah Jean
Tomkins, Jimmy Dell
Tomkus (Baker), Ruby Jane
Tomlin, Chiffie Tyrone
Tomlin, Jack Walton
Tompkins, Jerry Earl
Toney (Juneau), Lisa Dawn
Towns(McLaurin) Lena Mae
Towry, Mark Alan
Trepp, Lance Mathew
Trepp, Rhiannan Marie
Trewin (Wood), Ellen Elaine
Truty (Pevel) Rebecca Marie
Tucker, Braden Scott
Tucker, Braden Scott
Tucker, Bryan Christopher
Tucker, Dustin Michael
Tucker, Jesse Ollie
Tucker, Jesse Scott
Tulsa (Kelley) Gwendolyn A.
Tulsa, Anthony
Tunis, Loretta Jean
Turner, Jack Dean
Tuttell (Prince), Laurie L.
Tueele(Thompson) Melissa B
Tyler, Eugene
Tyler, Karl Burgess
Tyler, Karla Sue
Tyler, Margaret Ann
Tyler, Rosie Mae
Underwood, Teresa Jeanne
Unussee, Nathan Jeffrey
Upshaw (Colbert) Alicia M
Van Burskirk, Chasilee Dawn
Van Houndnac(Spear)Kathy L
Vandil (Davis), Constance L.
Vanzant (Smith), Donna J.
Vasquez(Perryman)Maria
Vasquez, Regina Lynn
Vaughn, Etheleeta Christina
Vaughn (Barnett), Martha J.
Vaughn(Boatman)Soundra D.
Vaughn (Smith), Saundra R.
Vaught, Tina Leann
Verge, Kelly Alan
Verge, Willis Howard
Veteto, Mark Eugene
Vian(Meeley)Cassandra Dee
Vickers (Thornburgh), Rhana
Vickery, Brenda Sue
Villalba (Bowman), Diana
Voils, Scotty Ray
Voisine (Fish), Ramona Jane
Vrazel(Tinney)Charlotte Gail
Wacoche, Alex
Wadsworth, Benny Richard
Wadsworth, John Patrick
Wagenhauser, Michelle
Wakatani, Doren Lee
Waldon, Cynthia Lou
Waldon, Gary Fred
Walker (Evans), Bobbie Sue
Walker, John Arthur
Walker, Robert Allen
Walker, Robert Wayne
Walker, Virgil Ray
Walkingsky(Beaver) Della R.
Wall Sr., Charles Ray

Wallace Jr., Donald Algin
Wallace, Everett Mark
Walters, Abby Jean
Walters, Carrid Faye
Walters, James Edward
Walters (Brown)Margaret A.
Walters, Roger Dale
Walton (Mason), Hurldine
Walton, Sherry Lee
Walton, Talisha Rose
Ward (Resoff), Juanita
Ware, James Michael
Ware, Johnny Anthony
Ware, Patricia Ann
Ware, Steven Eugne
Warren, Bonita Mae
Warren, Stephen Tyler
Waquie, Jason Emarthelee
Warrior (Wilkerson), Latreva
Warrior (Knight), Esther Jane
Washington (Campbell) Betty
Washington, Angel Michelle
Washington, Brutus Leon
Washington, Donald Ray
Washington, Donna Louise
Washington, Hyatt Nolan
Washington, Joseph Franklin
Washington, Joseph Steven
Washington, LaMonte DeCarlo
Watashe, Carol Sue
Watashe, Jerry Ray
Watashe, Shawn Rex
Waterdown, Lis Marie
Waters, Dana Evelyn
Watkins, Steven James
Watson (Fish), Cora Lee
Watson Jr., Ray
Watson, Julian Blair
Watson, Leiah Jean
Watson, Mary Helen
Watter, David Eugene
Wauahdooah, Joanne
Weaver, Pamela Renee
Webb Jr., Charles
Webb-Collins, Eula bell
Webb, Harold Ray
Webb, Joseph David
Webb, Kevin Kynard
Webb, Lawrence Edward
Webb, Mellissa Kaye
Webb, Ricardo Wayne
Weber, Christopher
Webster (Cooper), Robin G.
Wehunt, Patrick Wayne
Weins, Tony Ray
Welche, Kami Leann
Wells (Dunn), Josephine
Wells, Lyle Ray
Wells (Holleyman), Rosezena
Wells Jr., Watie Thomas
Wesley, Richard Charles
Wesley, Richard Victor
West, Blaine Nelson
West, Brandon Anthony
West, Billie Bob
West (Pittman), Cherly Ann
West, Russell Ethan
West (Gray), Mesulta
Westbrook, Sallie Lynn
Westbrook, Stephen Michael
Wheatley (Howard), Maxine
Wheeler, Michael Ray
Wheller, Kevin Earl
White (Allen) Fay Ann
White (Brown), Sandra Kay
White-Huling (Nelson) Martha
White (Coffee), Sara Ann
White, Byron Layden
White, Randall Dean
Whitehorn, Steven Dale
Whitlow, James Ashley
Whitlow, Jennifer Lea
Whitlow, Johnny Louis
Whitman, Richard Ray
Whitson, Eddie Floyd
Whitson, Jeffrey Neal
Wilbanks Jr., Chester Harold
Wiley, Janette Lee
Wiley (Boone), Ladossa B.
Wilkerson, Mona Marie
Wilkerson (Billy), Patsy Jo
Wilkins (Chambers) Sarah R.
Williams, Cara Danelle
Williams, Connie Lynn
Williams, David Irvan
Williams, Jeremy Paul
Williams, Jeryl Ray
Williams (Keys) Julayne Gail
Williams (Johnson) Ramona
Williams, Ronald Dean
Williams (Voice) Sherry Jean
Williams (Kaul) Vicky Sue
Willie, Tooskey Sam
Willis (Brid), Cherly Diane
Wills, Susan Elaine
Wilmott, Leslie Eugene
Wilnott, Theron Neail
Wilson, Allison Ann
Wilson (Manley) Fredericka J.
Wilson, Geralk David
Wilson, Katherine LaErne
Wilson, Kenneth Phillip
Wilson II, Kenneth Thomas
Wilson, Laura Charlene
Wilson, Marsha Lynne
Wilson II, Otis Allen
Wilson, Phillip James
Wilson, Simon Leroy
Wilson, Todd Alan
Wind-Scott, Robyn Dee
Wind, Thomas Kirk
Windell (Smoot), Linda A.
Windes, John Spencer
Windsor (Hartgraves) Judy M
Wingate, Phyllis Lynn
Winn, Dannie Jo
Winters, Clarisa Ann
Winters, Michael Leroy
Winters, Ryan Lance
Winters, William Scott
Wisdom, Michael John
Wisdon, Russell Matthew
Wiseman, Ronald William
Withers, Jr., Frank Wendell
Withers (Sewell), Barbra A.
Withers, Oliver Lee
Withers, Travis Wayne
Witty, Dale Ralph
Wolf, Warren Glenn
Wolf (Tompkins), Wands
Wood (Bear), Judy Florence
Wood, Kenneth Wayne
Wood, Leah Jeanine
Wood, Steve Melvin
Woodfield, Samuel Mark
Woodfork, Margaret Ann
Woodruff, Danny Doug
Woodson (Long), Sandra Kay
Woodward, James Harvey
Woody, Ronnie Wayne
Woody, Ross Franklin
Wooten, Dennis Kari
Wooten, Donald James
Workizer (Harjo) Patsy Pauline
Worth, Johnathan Charles
Worthington (Hale) Pattie M.
Wright, Cleo Milburn
Wright, Howard Vernon
Wright, James Ray
Wright, Mark Ryan
Wright, Michael Dotson
Wright, Robert Wayne
Wright, Teddy Lee
Wright, Thomas Eugene
Wright, Vincent Gene
Wyatt, Brian Kelly
Yahola, Barry Eugene
Yahola, Daniel Anthony
Yahola, James Alonzo
Yahola, Jonas Ray
Yahola (Deere), Juanita C.
Yahola, Kerri Danelle
Yahola, Kevin Lance
Yahola, Lisa Ann
Yahola, Virginia Sue
Yarbrough (Cobb) Linda F.
Yardy, Thomas Lewis
Yargee, Amon Eugene
Yargee, Joshua Dale
Yeatman, Darla Ann
Yingling (Cole), Iva Louise
York, Billy Jack
Young, Army Michelle
Young, Curtis Wayne
Young (Myers), Cynthia Jo
Young, David Gene
Young, Robbie Lee
Young, Stephen Wayne
Young, Tommy Lee
Young(Robison)Velma Jane
Young, William Blanken
Zech (Keene), Rita Ann
Zellner, Wanda June
Zemeno (Harjo), Gwendolyn
Zielke (Northcutt), Roberta S.

2011 MCN election information

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released information for the upcoming 2011 elections. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don't receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685.

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

Candidate eligibility for Principal Chief and Second Chief:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 30 years old upon filing
- Legal resident within jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing
- Filing fees for Principal Chief are $550 and $425 for Second Chief - cashier's check or money order only

Candidate eligibility for National Council Representative:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 18 years and older
- Must be a legal resident of his/her district one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing

Article VI Section 2(b), when the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

When filing please have the following documents:

- Tribal enrollment card
- MCN voter card
- Cashier's check or money order for $200 filing fee

Verification of residence; candidates will need two (2) of the following:

- Income tax return for the preceding year
- Homestead exemption or copy of property tax
- Copy of house deed or statement from Creek Housing Authority containing dates of residency
- If renting; a notarized statement form the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord's address and phone number
- Utility bill in candidate's name
- Driver's License (with current address)

(Address must be the same on all documents)

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

April 15, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 7

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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Into the clear blue

• April marks Child Abuse Prevention Month

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Pictured above are children from the local Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care and Head Start programs who participated in a balloon release in recognition of national Child Abuse Awareness Month in April.

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The blue of their balloons nearly matched the blue of the Oklahoma sky when dozens of children launched those balloons skyward as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Children and Family Services marked Child Abuse Awareness Month. The mass balloon release took place on the main grounds of the tribal complex. Children under the care of that Office and the Head Start program released the balloons.

The federal Office on Child Abuse and Neglect reports, in 1983, April was proclaimed the first National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Since then, child abuse and neglect awareness activities have been promoted across the country during April of each year. In 1989, the Blue Ribbon Campaign to Prevent Child Abuse began as a Virginia grandmother's tribute to her grandson who died as a result of abuse.

SEE BLUE - A8

Miss Muscogee Nation deadline set for April 29

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant will be June 3, 2011.

Contestant applications must be mailed or hand-delivered to the Human Development Building by 5 p.m., Friday, April 29. Pageant orientation is May 14, 2011.

This year there will be only two divisions of competition for royalty including Miss Muscogee Nation (ages 17-22, must be a high school graduate) and Junior Miss Muscogee Nation.

Contestants will be judged on poise/personality, traditional dress, cultural talent, speech, personal interview, assigned essay and a written test. Applicants must be full Creek citizens.

The crowned Miss will receive a total of $4000 in prize and scholarship money and the crowned Junior Miss will receive $1000 in prize money.

For more information, call (918) 732-7839, (918) 732-7724 or toll-free at 1-800-482-1979.

Applications may be sent to: Mona 'KoKo' Lowe, Mvskoke Language Program, P.O. Box 580. Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Sexual Assault Awareness Walk set for April 27

Media Release
MCN Family Violence Prevention

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program and the Okmulgee County Family Resource Center will sponsor the third annual Sexual Assault Awareness Walk on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 beginning at 10 a.m., at the Mound Building.

A presentation will begin at 10:30 a.m., with the walk following. Participants are asked to donate hygiene and paper products, diapers, wipes, new towels and or bedding, ect., which will be donated to the local resource center. A limited number of T-shirts will be available.

For more information, please contact Tina Qualls at (918) 732-7869.

A3 LEGAL
Court filings

A4 CAPITOL NEWS
Jump Rope Campaign

A5 VETERANS
Coon honored at the State Capital

A7 CAPITOL NEWS
WIC Breastfeeding Spotlight: Tiffany Frazier

A8 JUMPS
PK Propane

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from March 1, 2011 through March 31, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Bell Finance v. Sharon Jordan	Small Claims
Francis Taylor v. Robert Birdcreek	Petition
In the Matter of: J.D.	Petition
Western Shamrock v. Floyd Osborne	Foreign Judgment
Jennifer Jack v. John Colby	Petition
Noble Finance Corp., v. Paul Collett	Foreign Judgment
Hughes Financial Corp., v. Linda Harjo	Foreign Judgment
Heather Granger v. Nicholas Hallmark	Foreign Judgment
Discover Bank., v. Donna Tiger	Foreign Judgment
Covington Credit v. Dawn Harjo	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Lisa Warrior	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Ruby Norton	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Shelly Hughes	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Taryn McCargo	Small Claims
Faren Stidham v. Brian Payne	Petition
Wenona Fixico v. Miguel Mendoza	Petition
Tertiary Recovery v. Kenneth Wagner	Foreign Judgment
Nalan Bear v. Zechariah Dugan	Petition

Divorce:

Shannon Calderon v. Lisandro Calderon	Divorce
Barbara Lang v. Frederick Watson	Divorce
Stephanie Jackson v. Donald Jackson	Divorce
Barbara Gresham v. Willie Gresham	Divorce
Curtis Fixico v. Donna Fixico	Divorce
Shelly Yargee v. Christopher Yargee	Divorce
Andrew Proctor v. Lindsey Proctor	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Alexis Crosley v. Christina Schaffer	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jessica Walker v. Matthew Johnson	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Sheena Proctor v. Newman Phillips Jr.	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Bonita Denny v. Brandon Bush	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jamie Lehman v. Frederick King	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Barbara Brink v. Darrin Welch	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Laura Frenchman v. Chris Frenchman	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Cassandra Sustaita v. Chris Frenchman	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Sonya July v. Aletha Lee	Ex-Parte
Anthony Wind v. Austin Dean	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Sammy Dale Jr.	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Gary Littlehead	Ct. 1: Trespass

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. John Calk	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Jodie Fees	Ct. 1: Theft

Traffic:

MCN v. Lawrence Thompson	No Seatbelt
MCN v. Lawrence Thompson	Starting, Stopping w/out Regard to Safety
MCN v. Glenn Reese	No Driver's License
MCN v. Sandra Mullins	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kirby Byassee	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Joshua Moyer	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Angela Beckham	No Insurance
MCN v. Leslie Rosenthall	Trespassing

Marriage Licenses:

Jordan Johnson and Leah Proctor Marriage License

Letter to the Editor

Citizen thanks Nation for handicap ramp

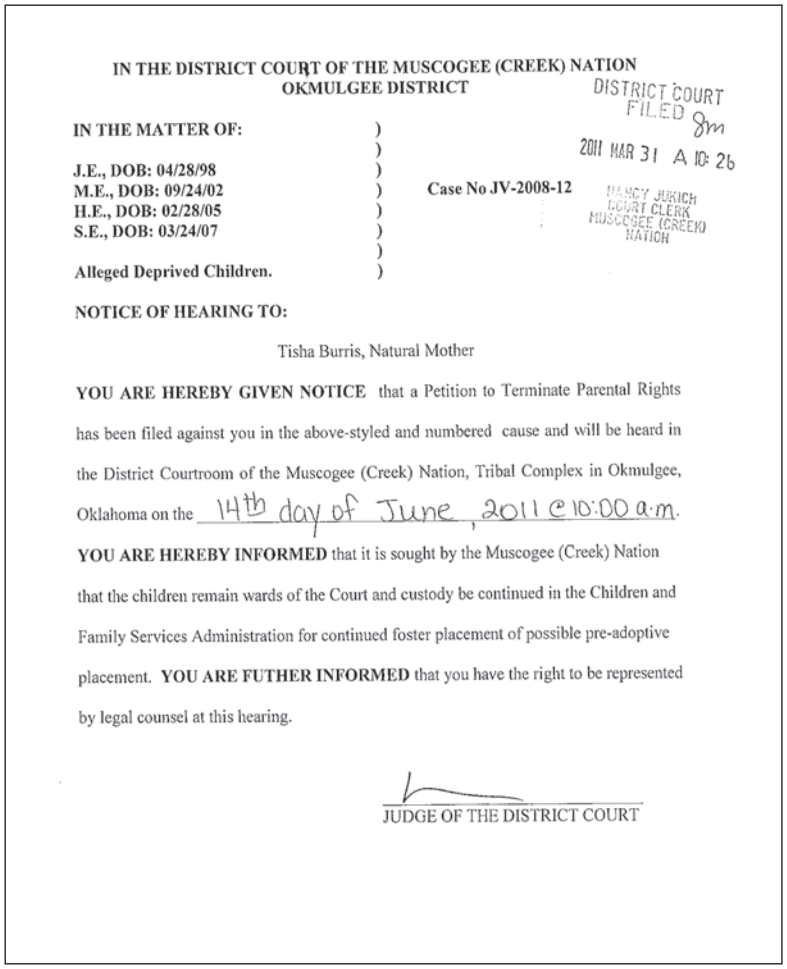
GLENPOOL — We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the wonderful ramp they constructed for us at our home in Glenpool.

As we enter the winter years of our lives, it has already provided a great relief for my wife's 87-year-old mother, my 68-year-old wife, who has lupus and me, a 75-year-old type II diabetic.

We would like to thank Victor Berryhill of the admissions office who led us through the paperwork and Chris Stacy, who was ever at hand, watching over the work being done. We also thank Clyde ad Ken of Renovations by Helms who built the ramp in a friendly and professional manner. God bless you all.

We would also like to ask the blessing of our Lord God Almighty upon our Muscogee Nation. May our great nation keep marching onward in integrity, honesty and truth. May we never start wandering in the desert.

— A grateful Daniel (Jim) and Shirley Givens



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED 8m
2011 MAR 31 A 10: 26
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
J.E., DOB: 04/28/98)
M.E., DOB: 09/24/02) Case No JV-2008-12
H.E., DOB: 02/28/05)
S.E., DOB: 03/24/07)
)
Alleged Deprived Children.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tisha Burris, Natural Mother

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 14th day of June, 2011 @ 10:00 a.m.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Muscogee (Creek) Nation)
Plaintiff,)
v.) **Case No. CV 2011-**
)
Seven Hundred Thirteen Dollars and no/100)
)
Defendant.)

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Jason Kyle Cambell, 350 Spring Creek Pryor, OK 74361; and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

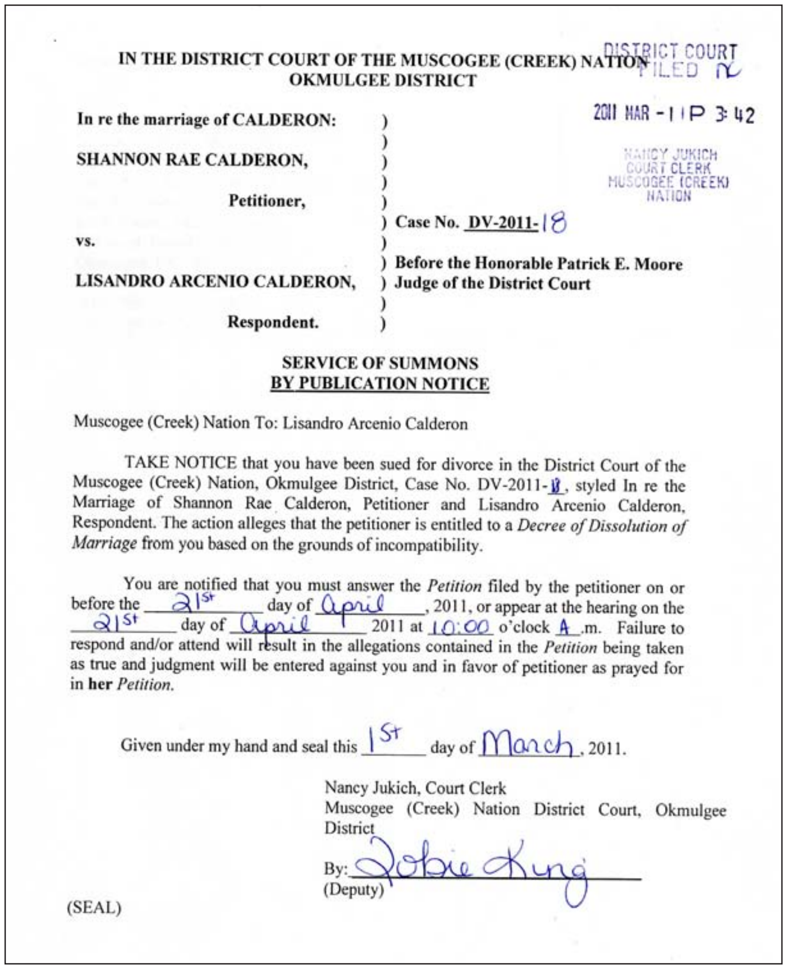
You are hereby notified that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 21 §,11-106, *et seq*.

Said property was seized on or about the 23rd day of January, 2011, from said Jason Kyle Cambell and forfeiture is sought for the reason that said defendant had money in his vehicle in close proximity to illegal drugs;

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property within forty-five days of notice after which time the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will move the Court for an Order of Forfeiture for said property.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brett E. Gray, Prosecutor
Muscogee Creek Nation



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 MAR -1 P 3: 42
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the marriage of CALDERON:)
)
SHANNON RAE CALDERON,)
)
Petitioner,)
) Case No. DV-2011-18
vs.)
) Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
LISANDRO ARCENIO CALDERON,) Judge of the District Court
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Lisandro Arcenio Calderon

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2011-18, styled In re the Marriage of Shannon Rae Calderon, Petitioner and Lisandro Arcenio Calderon, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 21st day of April, 2011, or appear at the hearing on the 21st day of April 2011 at 10:00 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in **her** *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 1st day of March, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District
By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Screen & Stitch
1203 S. Wood Dr.
Okmulgee, OK 74447
P: 918-756-1010
E: screenandstitch@att.net
Native American (Creek)
& Disabled Veteran Owned
Monday through Friday
9:00 am to 5:30 pm

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- Jackets
- Totes & Bags
- Aprons
- Sports Jerseys
- Decals for Vehicles
- Banners
- License Plates

2011 Festival sign-ups now available

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

Sign-ups for both slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball are now available on-line and through the Tourism & Recreation Office.

Commemorative Festival 2011 mugs in four designs are available for purchase for $8 each as well as raffle tickets to win a 2011 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200 Low. Tickets for the motorcycle are available for $5 each or five for $20. The drawing is open to everyone and winner will be announced and awarded on Saturday, June 25, 2011 after 6 p.m. Participants need not be present to win.

Sponsorships are still available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

“Hop to Stop Diabetes” campaign recruits over 300 students

MCN/*Diabetes Programs*

Pictured above are the Mounds Jumping Eagles who participated in the “Hop to Stop Diabetes” jump rope campaign.

Kimberlee Little
Eufaula Exercise Programs Manager

MOUNDS — Sixty-eight elementary students in the “Hop to Stop Diabetes” school program demonstrated their jump roping skills to 330 attendees at “Jump Rope for Heart” events in March at Mounds and Stidham schools. These events highlight the connection between diabetes and heart attacks and the importance of exercise to reduce the risk of both diseases.

Each year, the MCN Diabetes Program sponsors two Jump Rope for Heart Health Fairs. The American Heart Association and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance were partners in these events. The students raised money for the American Heart Association to help fund research to fight heart disease and stroke.

A variety of organizations are invited to set up booths at the schools to provide information to students and parents about how to be safe and healthy. In conjunction with the health fair, students who participated in our Hop to Stop Diabetes Program performed their jump rope routine in front of many friends and family.

Students who participated in Jump Rope for Heart earned prizes from the American Heart Association, NIKE, MCN Diabetes Program, and health fair booth participants. Booth participants included the Eufaula Deep Fork Area Prevention Resource Center, Eufaula Indian Health Center, Health Back Home Health, MCN Adult Protective Services, MCN Children and Family Services, MCN Family and Domestic Violence, MCN Foster Care and Adoption, MCN Tobacco Program, and Systems of Care Wraparound.

The Hop to Stop Diabetes is a program sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) Diabetes Program that promotes physical fitness and heart health through the fun activity of jumping rope, an alternative sport. It is conducted by the MCN Diabetes Program Exercise staff in two different schools throughout Creek Nation for a length of two years. Stidham and Mounds schools are completing their 2nd year. We will be adding two new schools next year.

2011 MCN election information

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released information for the upcoming 2011 elections. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don’t receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685.

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

Candidate eligibility for Principal Chief and Second Chief:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 30 years old upon filing
- Legal resident within jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing
- Filing fees for Principal Chief are $550 and $425 for Second Chief - cashier’s check or money order only

Candidate eligibility for National Council Representative:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 18 years and older
- Must be a legal resident of his/her district one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing

Article VI Section 2(b), when the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

When filing please have the following documents:

- Tribal enrollment card
- MCN voter card
- Cashier’s check or money order for $200 filing fee

Verification of residence; candidates will need two (2) of the following:

- Income tax return for the preceding year
- Homestead exemption or copy of property tax
- Copy of house deed or statement from Creek Housing Authority containing dates of residency
- If renting; a notarized statement form the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord’s address and phone number
- Utility bill in candidate’s name
- Driver’s License (with current address)

(Address must be the same on all documents)

Higher Education applications due June 1, 2011

Media Release
MCN Higher Education

OKMULGEE — Applications for the 2011 academic year for higher education funding are now available on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation web site under bulletins at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Completed applications will be taken through June 1, 2011.

The Creek Nation Tribal Funds Grant is available to enrolled citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation accepted into an approved college or university. Full-time students will be awarded $1,000 per semester/quarter. Part-Time student awards will be $500. Total amount of awards may not exceed $2000 per academic year for full-time students and $1,000 per academic year for part-time students.

For the BIA grant, the maximum amount of funding per semester a student may receive will be $1,000 for a single student, $1,500 for independent student and $2,000 for married or head of household student.

For more information, please contact Creek Nation Higher Education, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or call (918) 732-7688 exts. 7689,7690, 7691, 7692, and 7693.

Coon honored at state capitol

• Muscogee vet recognized as Bataan Death March survivor

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

OKLAHOMA CITY — On April 11, 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen and World War II veteran Phillip Coon was honored by the Oklahoma State Senate at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City as "Veteran of the Week."

State Rep. Mark McCullough (R), District 30, heard about Mr. Coon through another WWII veteran and the trials that he went through during his time in the service as well as the honors, awards and praise that he received for that time as well.

"When I heard about Mr. Coon, I immediately began making arrangements to get him up here to be recognized at "Veteran of the Week." This is an honor. I can't even described how honored I am to be the fellow that got the luck of the draw to have Mr. Coon living in his district that we were able to bring him up and were able to honor him officially today at the State House. This is about Mr. Coon and the sacrifices he made for his country, and the honor he has brought to our state, country, and to his tribe."

Coon served in the Pacific during World War II and was taken prisoner by the Japanese in 1942. He is the only Native American survivor of the Bataan Death March, a forcible 60-mile march of U.S. and Filipino prisoners that resulted in the death of thousands.

Singers for Native Praise were in attendance to sing for Mr. Coon as well as Honor Guards from Cherokee, Seminole and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the opening ceremonies.

Mr. Coon was honored with a standing ovation from the representatives that were in attendance as well as the members of the public. Mr. Coon was presented with a "Veteran of the Week" Citation and he was asked to lead the State House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

In return, Mr. Coon donated a mural of himself to the State House of Representatives.

MNN/Gerald Wofford

Pictured above is Phillip Coon, survivor of the Bataan Death March who was recently honored by the Senate at the Oklahoma State Capitol as "Veteran of the Week."

Veterans' Scoop

Staff
Veterans Affairs Services Office

The Veterans' Scoop will feature articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Veterans urged to sign up for direct deposit

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefits by March 1, 2013. Officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) urge Veterans to sign up for electronic payment of their benefits.

"Receiving VA benefits electronically will increase the security, convenience and reliability of these vital payments," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "VA encourages Veterans who are now receiving their benefits in paper checks to set up direct deposits before the deadline."

On March 1, 2013, VA will stop issuing paper checks. People who do not have electronic payments for their federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card. Called the Direct Express card, it is issued by Comerica Bank as the financial agent of the U.S. Treasury.

Another deadline affects people receiving VA's compensation or pensions for the first time after May 1, 2011. Those people will automatically receive the benefits electronically.

Anyone already receiving federal benefit payments electronically will be unaffected by the changes. To learn more about the federal government's switch to direct deposit – or to change VA benefits to direct deposit, visit www.GoDirect.org. Information about the federal government's "Go Direct" campaign is also available at 1-800-333-1795.

Along with payments for VA benefit, the change will also affect recipients of payments from Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Railroad Retirement Board, or Office of Personnel Management.

For more information about VA benefits and programs, go to www.va.gov or call toll free 1-800-827-1000.

Aid for veterans exposed to Agent Orange

WASHINGTON, D.C., — Veterans exposed to herbicides while serving along the demilitarized zone (DMZ) in Korea will have an easier path to access quality health care and benefits under a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) final regulation that will expand the dates when illnesses caused by herbicide exposure can be presumed to be related to Agent Orange.

VA will presume herbicide exposure for any Veteran who served between April 1, 1968, and Aug. 31, 1971, in a unit determined by VA and the Department of Defense (DoD) to have operated in an area in or near the Korean DMZ in which herbicides were applied.

In practical terms, eligible Veterans who have specific illnesses VA presumes to be associated with herbicide exposure do not have to prove an association between their illness and their military service. This "presumption" simplifies and speeds up the application process for benefits and ensures that Veterans receive the benefits they deserve.

Additional information is available at www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange.

MCN School Clothing Program applications available May 2

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, will be accepting applications for school clothing beginning Monday, May 2, 2011. Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of October 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek Citizen students no matter where you live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program consist of:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least 3 years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be 4 years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade. All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.
- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200.00. (Example: If you received $400.00 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350.00, you will be eligible to receive $200.00.) Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.00.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social

Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center.
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center.
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447. Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

Head Start now accepting applications

Media Release
MCN Head Start

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application.

All races and ethnicities may apply. Interested applicants should begin the application process now, as it does take some time to complete.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

Division of Health sponsoring focus group

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for people to volunteer their time to participate in a focus group which will concentrate on patient experiences within Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers.

Parties interested participating in the focus group regarding Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers may contact Anne Edwards, Patient Advocacy Coordinator at (918) 756-3334 ext. 287, call 1-877-579-4911 or e-mail anne.edwards@creekhealth.org

Social Security adopts electronic payments

Media Release
MCN Social Security Asst. Program

OKMULGEE — According to the Okmulgee Social Security office, The U.S. Department of the Treasury has issued a final rule to extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to all Americans receiving Social Security and other federal benefit and non-tax payments.

Under the rule, anyone applying for benefits on or after May 1, 2011 will receive payments electronically while those already receiving paper checks will need to switch to direct deposit by March 1, 2013.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury will allow benefits to be paid by paper check to individuals who state they meet one of the following exemptions: age 90 or older; have a mental impairment, or live in a remote area of the country.

Treasury is responsible for obtaining notarized documentation from the individual and making the exemption decision.

"Eight in 10 federal benefit recipients already use direct deposit, and now millions of additional retirees, veterans and other Americans will also receive their money in the safest, most reliable way—electronically," said Treasury Fiscal Assistant Secretary Richard L. Gregg.

"This important change will provide significant savings to American taxpayers who will no longer incur the annual $120 million price tag associated with paper checks and will save Social Security $1 billion over the next 10 years."

To learn more about electronic payments or to sign up, please visit www.GoDirect.org

For questions regarding Social Security benefits, individuals may contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Security Assistance Program at (918) 549-2475 or a local Social Security office.

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The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

WIC Breast-feeding Spotlight: Tiffany Frazier

Photo Courtesy/*MCN WIC*

Pictured above are Tiffany (center top), Kayman (center bottom) and twins Kameron and Khamdem.

Media Release
MCN WIC Program

OKMULGEE — Tiffany Frazier is the busy mom of three children, daughter Kayman and twin sons Kameron and Khamden. She breastfed her daughter for eight months, and admits, "I was nervous about breastfeeding in public. I always covered myself or went somewhere that I felt comfortable. After a while I just made sure my clothes were comfortable and found a place where I could relax to enjoy breastfeeding."

When asked what encouraged Frazier to continue breastfeeding after the first month and she replied, "I enjoyed the bonding; no words can describe it, it's amazing."

What makes Frazier amazing is that she breastfed her twins until they were almost eight months old. When asked what inspired her to breastfeed she responded, "The health benefits for me and my babies, it's natural, and I just knew I would. It is a learning game for the whole family and your spouse has to support you. I didn't have a lot of problems; I just did it knowing the positives would outweigh any negatives."

Frazier went on to say her message to other moms is to be positive and know that it is a learning experience for mom, baby and family. She encourages moms to stick with it long enough to get it down. Breastfeeding means you don't have to clean bottles and the diapers smell better as well.

Tiffany's advice to pregnant and breastfeeding women "be patient, don't be scared to ask others for help. There is always someone to help, use your support system at home and in the public. Enlist a good support system that encourages you to breastfeed your baby and to help around the house. Stick with it, hang in there."

We asked Tiffany what she would miss out on by not breastfeeding, and she replied, "Bonding, I would not have the relationship with my children that I do now or the experience of breastfeeding. And I get bragging rights for breastfeeding my twins for over a year!"

Blue

Continued from A1

She tied a blue ribbon to the antenna of her car as a way to remember him and to alert her community to the tragedy of child abuse. The Blue Ribbon Campaign has since expanded across the country, and many wear blue ribbons each April in memory of those who have died as a result of child abuse.

A Declaration from the Office of Principal Chief A.D. Ellis honored the event, noting that Native American families face one of the highest rates of victimization in the country when compared to any other racial group. The Muscogee Nation, he declared, has dedicated individuals and organizations working to counter the problems of child abuse and neglect and to help parents obtain the assistance they need.

Steven Wahnee, Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Coordinator for the nation, says their task locally is to deal with a daily caseload for this area. Families needing assistance are given support service and counseling, with a goal of keeping that family together. Sometimes those support efforts are not enough and their Office must remove children from their home environment. Each case is different, he says, "Once we get that call to our office, we have Child Protection officers that go out and assess that situation. If they feel that child needs to be removed, if they feel that child is in danger, then we do have the backing of our tribal court to do that, at that time. If our protection workers feel that the parents may need a little bit of assistance as far as maybe some counseling and things like that, drug and alcohol assessment, then we'll also provide that for them. A lot of people take advantage of it. It helps the family unit in a big way."

Currently there are 40 to 45 Creek children in their custody that have been removed from their parents. There are, he says, probably another 200 to 250 Muscogee children that came from abusive or dysfunctional situations who are now in the custody of the State of Oklahoma. ICW workers from the nation concentrate on cases within tribal jurisdiction, and there are some that focus on state court activity to advocate for placement of Muscogee children with a tribal family in accordance with the Indian Child Welfare Act.

It's not all grim statistics and division of families, though; there are the success stories. For Wahnee, there are the times when their work pays off. "The best thing about my job, is whenever we get families at our tribal court, and the judge says 'Case dismissed, you guys have done a great job, kids can come home, case dismissed,' that's the best part about my job." Another thing he likes, he says, is seeing to see the joy that those kids have and the joy that the parents have whenever they get to see their kids, or hug their kids.

In closing, Wahnee emphasizes that the problem of child abuse still exists all year round, and made an appeal for others to get involved if they know of such a situation, "Child Abuse Awareness Month is just a month, child abuse awareness is throughout the year. We should all be aware of child abuse, not just for one month, but throughout 12 months of the year. If you feel that a child is being abused or neglected, or you feel that something is going on, don't hesitate to call. You don' t have to give your name. If you feel that a child needs assistance don't hesitate to call, because we're all obligate as adults, to make sure that children are being cared for and children are being safe."

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Children and Family Services may be contacted at (918)-732-7869. On April 27, the third Annual Sexual Assault Awareness Walk will take place at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building. Registration begins at 10 a.m., a presentation begins at 10:30, followed by the Walk.

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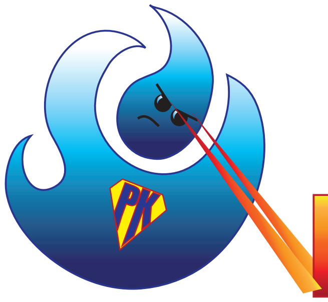

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SECTION B

FEATURES

April 15, 2011 edition

Brother and sister recognized

• Sexson and Cantrell credit higher education for success

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

SAPULPA — Tracy Sexson, who teaches English at Sapulpa High School was recently honored as the 'District Teacher of the Year." Sexson was nominated by her peers and then interviewed by an educational committee to be selected for this title. Sexson is now in the running for 'State Teacher of the Year."

Sexson's brother, Zeddie Cantrell, Jr., also garnered an award, when he was selected as the 'Young Optometrist of the Year.'

Both are Creek citizens and credit their success to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department and their assistance in helping them obtain college degrees.

MNN/Gerald Wofford

Pictured above are Tracy Sexson and Zeddie Cantrell, Muscogee (Creek) sister and brother who have both earned awards in their careers with the help of educational assistance through the tribe.

"The Creek Nation was extremely instrumental in my higher education experience," says Sexson. "I received a scholarship each semester that I attended plus an additional scholarship for my grades. When I decided to pursue my master's degree, they not only continued those two scholarships but helped me to find additional resources. I worked with the Creek Nation who guided me to the American Indian Graduate Center, (AIGC). I received a fellowship from the AIGC to help obtain my master's degree. Because of my ancestry, I was able to obtain numerous state and national scholarships. The Creek Nation helped me to find additional applications. In 2000, I was selected as the Five Civilized Tribes Female of the Year. I was also selected as a Coca-Cola Scholar and traveled to Atlanta, Ga., as a part of the scholarship program. My ancestry opened numerous doors for me."

Cantrell echoes his sister's claim on how the department helped him, "Throughout high school, the Creek Nation helped provide aid in the form of school supplies and educational trips. My senior year, I was honored with the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five civilized Tribes Student Recognition Award. Throughout college and professional school, the Creek Nation provided financial support through semester scholarships. They also provided incentive scholarships for grades maintained above a 3.0 GPA. These were all very helpful in keeping down my financial debt to attend school and excel."

Both Creek citizens are always looking for ways to give back. Sexson donates her teaching time to Native American students applying for scholarships and invites Sapulpa Indian Education Department Director Ray Rogers to speak about minority scholarships.

Cantrell has worked with Indian clinics around the state and with the Creek Nation Insurance companies to continue to provide comprehensive eye care to citizens.

2011 MNN graduate edition coming soon

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The *Muscogee Nation News* will be featuring 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation graduates in an upcoming summer edition.

Graduate submissions should include full name of graduate, photo (will not be returned), school, university or technical institution, parents, ceremonial ground, church, tribal town, clan and any awards/accomplishments.

Information may be submitted through mail, fax or e-mail (preferred) and must be received no later than Friday, June 3, 2011 by 5 p.m., in the MCN Communications Department.

Please send submissions to: MCN Communications
C/O Angel Ellis
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

For more information, contact Angel Ellis at (918) 732-7697.

Southern Regional Office Grand Opening set for April 29

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

WETUMKA — All Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens are invited to attend the Grand Opening of the Southern Regional Offices located in Wetumka, Okla., at 333 S. Washita, on Friday, April 29 beginning at 10 a.m.

The offices will provide representatives from Citizenship, Election Board, WIC, Housing, Lighthorse, Food Distribution, Social Services, Child Care, Behavioral Health, Reintegration Youth Program, Youth Wellness/Targeted Capacity Expansion Program, National Council, MCN Child Support Enforcement, Tax Commission and the opening of the Wetumka Indian Health Center.

In case of inclement weather, the program will be held in the Wetumka High School Auditorium located directly east of the Southern Regional Office.

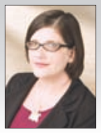
For more information, please call (405) 452-1100.

B2 CULTURAL

And Still the Waters Run: *Osceola*

B4 SPOTLIGHT

Deer honored for Native women's advocacy



B5 SPOTLIGHT

Marx inducted into USA Martial Arts Hall of Fame

B7 PEOPLE

Accomplishment: Jesse McDermott

B8 AD

Southern Regional Office Grand Opening

GRAND OPENING
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE
APRIL 29, 2011 –10 A.M.

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THIS OFFICE INCLUDE:

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- NATIONAL COUNCIL
- MCN CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT
- TAX COMMISSION
- WETUMKA INDIAN HEALTH CENTER
- YOUTH WELLNESS / TARGETED CAPACITY EXPANSION PROGRAM
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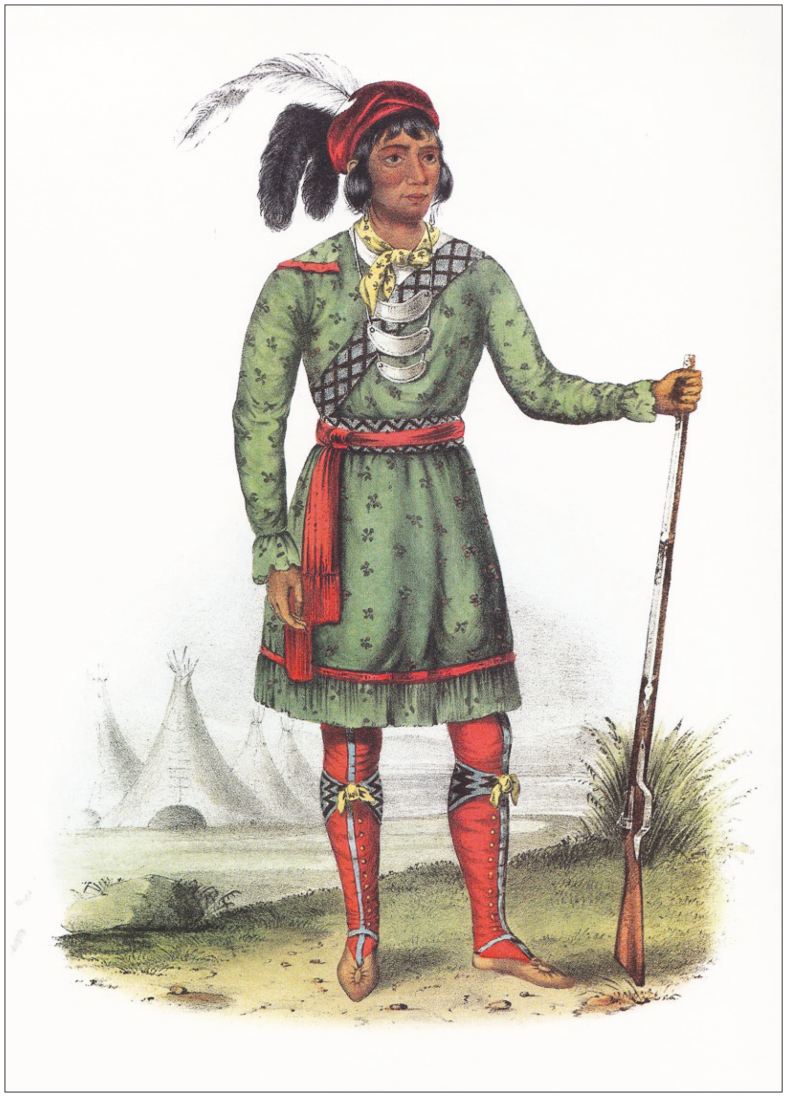
YOUR PRESENCE WILL BE AN HONOR AS WE CELEBRATE THIS GREAT EVENT. THE MCN SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 333 S. WASHITA, IN WETUMKA, OKLA. IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, THE PROGRAM WILL BE HELD IN THE WETUMKA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM LOCATED DIRECTLY EAST OF THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (405) 452-1100.

And Still the Waters Run: *Osceola*



Photos courtesy/*George Windes*

Pictured above is Mvskoke and Seminole leader Billy Powell, more commonly known as Osceola who led a revolt against U.S. troops before Indian removal in the 1830s.

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — Immediately upon starting this column, I will address the question as to whether or not the historical leader known as Osceola was Muscogee or Seminole. The true answer is both. His life and untimely death combine to make his story seem more legendary than real. His capture/betrayal under a truce flag remains today one of the blackest marks in American military history.

Osceola was named Billy Powell at his birth in 1804. He is said to have been the son of an English trader, William Powell and his wife, Polly, who was part Muscogee and part Scottish through her grandfather James McQueen. He grew up in Tallassee, Ala., the inhabitants of which; "were Native American/English/Scottish/Irish." School children have written his boyhood name was Little Owl, but I have found no real evidence of that.

It is known that after the Creek Indian War of 1813, that Osceola and his mother moved to Fla., along with many other Creeks. In adulthood he received his name, Os'ce'ola; an English pronunciation of the Seminole word for "Black Drink Singer."

The Indian Removal Act was passed in 1830 and the U.S. government (Andrew Jackson) wanted to send the Seminoles to Indian Territory. It would cause what is known as the Second Seminole War. Osceola, being elegant in dress, handsome of face, and passionate in nature, quickly became one of two main legendary Seminole leaders (Abiaka – Sam Jones – being the other), opposed to removal.

Osceola would actually mastermind successful battles against five U.S. generals. He killed the U.S. Indian Agent. He took punitive action against any who cooperated with the white man and stood tall as a national manifestation of the Seminole's strong reputation for non-surrender.

Osceola was not a Seminole chief in the real sense, but his skill as an orator and his bravado in resistance became known to a worldwide audience. He had plunged his knife into a treaty that he was told to sign, which would have moved his people from their homeland to Okla., and for the next seven years he led his warriors in a game of cat-and-mouse against U.S. federal troops in the Fla., swamps.

Osceola was tricked into talking peace in 1837, while under a white flag of truce. He was imprisoned in Fort Moultrie, S.C. Several artists came to paint his portrait. The military treachery outraged famed artist George Catlin and he hurried to the prison. He and Osceola became friends and he willingly posed for his portrait. "This gallant fellow," wrote Catlin, "is grieving with a broken spirit, and ready to die, cursing the white man no doubt, to his very last breath." Soon after the portrait was completed, just three months into captivity, on Jan. 30, 1838, the warrior died in a dark prison cell. His tribe was outraged. They would rally to fight on for five more years. The world community took issue with the U.S. as well.

As was the custom of the time, an army doctor, Frederick Weedon, made a death mask of Osceola. He is also said to have removed the warrior's head and embalmed it. He kept numerous personal objects as well. Several legends and rumors about the head have circulated through the years. Archaeologists eventually opened Osceola's grave and his body was found still in its coffin. The Seminoles bought his bandolier and several other personal items from a Sotheby's auction in 1979.

As was common in those times, Osceola had two wives and at least five children. Thus his posterity is found today in Fla., and in Okla. Because Creeks and Seminoles have often intermarried, probably his blood can be found amongst a few citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as well. He was after all, Creek first, and Seminole second.

There are several excellent new books written about Osceola. Please research via the Internet and read up on this Native American icon.

I have so enjoyed my quest to learn more about the mystery, myths and the lasting legacy of Osceola.

Finally, the Seminoles of Florida never signed a peace treaty with the U.S. They have always remained an independent Nation. I tip my hat to our Fla., cousins (and to my sweet niece and family in Tampa).

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

MCN Living Legend nominations due May 26

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The 37th Annual Creek Festival is seeking nominees for the Living Legends Ceremony that will honor two tribal citizens who have devoted years to the betterment of the Creek citizens. This ceremony will provide an opportunity to honor our treasures while they are still living.

This event was created by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, during the 2005 Muscogee Nation Festival. The Living Legends Ceremony honors Muscogee (Creek) citizens who have made significant contributions to the Nation.

Nominees must meet the following qualifications:

- Must be a Creek citizen
- Must be at least 55 years of age and
- Must have devoted years to the betterment of the Creek people, government, etc. All areas will be considered including artist, craftsmen, political people, educational people, ceremonial/religious leaders.

The committee will select two individuals from submitted nominees and honor them during the Chief's State of the Nation Address on Friday, June 24, 2011 at 5:30 p.m., in the Multi-Purpose Building located at the Claude Cox Omniplex. All nominations must be submitted to the Office of the Principal Chief at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Deadline: 5 p.m., Friday, May 26, 2011.

For more information please contact Rachael Sumka at (918) 732-7604 or Shelby Rex at (918) 732-7605.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Springfield annual Memorial Gospel Singing

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church will host their annual Memorial Gospel Singing on May 29 beginning at 7 p.m.

Rev. David Little will be the emcee and concessions will be available.

NAWS Tike Chapman Memorial Golf Tournament

CATOOSA— The Native American Warriors Society is holding their first annual SGT Tike Chapman Memorial Golf Challenge to help support Native American troops Saturday, July 30 at the Cherokee Hills Golf Club.

Registration begins at 7 a.m., and Shotgun Start begins at 8 a.m. There will be a 4-person scramble. Hole and team sponsorships are available for $125 for an individual and $400 for teams.

Entry fee includes: green fees, cart fees, range balls, lunch, goodie bags, Return Play Foursome and a discount card from Cherokee Hills. Prize awards will be for: first place team, second place team, longest drive (individual) and closest to the pin (individual).

For more information, contact Dwayne or Yvonne Cahwee at (918) 946-8024 or visit http://nawtulsa.angelfire.com/okla/

Cherokee Hills Golf Club is located at 777 W. Cherokee St., in Catoosa, Okla.

Thunder Road Theater Company Benefit Dinner And Craft Sale

TULSA — To raise money for its upcoming season, Thunder Road Theater Company is holding a Traditional Native American dinner and arts and crafts sale.

The event will take place Saturday, May 7, 2011 at the Tulsa Creek Indian community center, located at 8611 South Union Avenue (Take the 81st St. exit off Highway 75 and turn south on Union. TCIC is located on the east side of the road).

The dinner is being cooked by the Tiger family from Pecan Grove. $6 a plate includes a choice of chicken, salt meat, pork chops, with beans, rice, corn soup, biscuit or frybread, tea, or coffee, pie or cake. Soda, sofke and blue bread will be sold separately and take-out is available. Thunder Road Theater Company's summer project is a collectively created Muscogee language play, to be followed by a main stage play in the fall.

For more information about Thunder Road Theater Company and the dinner, visit web.me.com/thunderroadtheater or contact Deena Tiger at 918-630-0067.

Restoring Harmony Powwow 2011

TULSA — The Tulsa Indian Community Advisory Team (TICAT) presents its 2011 Restoring Harmony Powwow on Saturday, April 30, 2011, at the Westside YMCA, 5400 S. Olympia Ave., Tulsa. The theme for this year's powwow is "Nourishing the Roots of Resilience."

The powwow is cosponsored by Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa, Osage Nation Counseling Center, and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Protecting the Future-Children's Mental Health Initiative.

The Restoring Harmony Powwow is an event designed to celebrate National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day with the goal of educating our community about children's mental health issues and increasing access to available services. There will be activities available for all ages, including an awareness hike, dance specials (to honor our youth and elders), educational and vendor booths, and youth speak outs.

All organizations, agencies, and individuals that provide support for the Powwow will be recognized on event flyers and through emcee announcements. For information on providing support to the powwow, contact Tim Shadlow at (918) 382-2217 or tshadlow@ihcrc.org.

Vendor booth spaces will also be available and renters must provide tables, chairs, display fixtures, and lighting. For information on space rental, contact Michael Bargas at (918) 382-2207 or mbargas@ihcrc.org.

Volunteers are needed for everything from dancer registration and vendor coordination to parking lot attendants and meal servers. To volunteer, contact Hannah Watah at (918) 382-2200 or hwatah@ihcrc.org

Five-family rummage sale fundraiser

OKMULGEE — Rummage and Bake Sale will be held at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center located just north of the tribal complex on April 30, 2011. The sale will take place between 7 am and 3 pm.

There will be a wide variety of household goods and clothing as well as cakes, sweets, and drinks. There will also be raffles for gift cards from various vendors.

All proceeds will go directly toward Krystal Winds college and moving expenses.

Citizen seeks information

TULSA — Jim Berryhill Sr., is seeking information concerning a family cemetery near Wilson. Berryhill's mother, Martha Davis Berryhill is buried at the site located approximately two miles West and four miles South of Wilson School.

He is has been in contact with the MCN Cemetery Project and is trying to find any information that would help identify the other graves at the site. According to Berryhill, the property has changed ownership over the years and are difficult to determine location and identity of those buried there.

Information would be appreciated and be sent to Jim Berryhill Sr., 9123 E 58th St., Tulsa, Okla., 74145

AITC in search of lead role

TULSA — The American Indian Theater Company is holding auditions for it's next production. A romantic screwball comedy "Rabbit boy dances with Otter girl" needs one Native American male actor for lead role. The part does pay.

To schedule an audition call for an appointment (918) 712-7543.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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Deer honored for Native women's advocacy

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

Photo/*William Mitchell College of Law Web site*

Pictured above is Associate Professor of Law at William and Mary College Sarah Deer with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder.

ST. PAUL, Minn., — Professor Sarah Deer, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen received the Allied Professional Award from the U.S. Department of Justice, in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes Deer's dedication to addressing and ending the crime of sexual violence against Native women. Deer is an Assistant Professor of Law at William Mitchell College in St. Paul, Minn., April 8. U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder recognized her outstanding work on behalf of Native women who have been victims of sexual assault. Native American women suffer the highest rate of sexual assault in the U.S.

In that announcement, Justice officials said Deer's career-long knowledge of the issues related to the epidemic levels of sexual violence against Native American women and the related jurisdictional issues led to recommendations made by the world-wide organization, Amnesty International. This was the first time such intensive national and international attention was brought to the issue.

"Violence against Native women was virtually unheard of prior to colonization," Deer said. Today, she noted, the statistics are horrific, "Thirty-four percent of Native American women nationally are reported as victims. I think those are conservative numbers from Native Americans." Other national statistics, Deer added, point to a vast majority of such crimes against Native women being committed by non-Native men who target Native women as easy prey in many situations. In tightly-knit societies such as reservations and Native communities, the problem is complicated because residents are reluctant to speak of it. "If something happens, assimilation (by the larger society) of Native peoples has brought shame, 'I did something wrong.' When you add in tribal communities, there's a real sense of shame. Nobody wants to talk about it."

Deer has co-authored two textbooks on tribal law and several academic articles on Native American women. Her advocacy began when she served as a rape crisis volunteer while earning her B.A. in Women's Studies and Philosophy from the University of Kansas. In law school she addressed the unique legal issues facing Native rape survivors, and received her J.D. with a Tribal Lawyer Certificate from University of Kansas School of Law.

Deer is one of eight honorees for the Allied Professional Award. When contacted about the award in March of this year, Deer remembers she wasn't sure the contact was real. "The Office of Victims of Crime called and it was an unknown number on my phone. They said I could call back to make sure it wasn't some kind of prank. They wanted to confirm that I was the person, and to do a background check, etc."

The top federal official for law enforcement declared all those being honored to be inspirations. "Each of the leaders, legal advocates, public servants and concerned citizens here today are part of a powerful, national movement—one that inspired the passage of the historic 1984 Victims of Crime Act that created the Crime Victims Fund, as well as the 1994 crime bill and the Violence Against Women Act," said Holder. "We commend these individuals and service providers who, when faced with emerging challenges, seek out new ways to protect our communities, and to more effectively assist and empower crime victims."

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month across the entire US. "It's a chance for tribal governments and all Americans to give attention to the issue. It is working," she, says, "It gives a forum to do events. I've seen tribal governments do all kinds of activities."

On April 27, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is sponsoring a Sexual Assault Awareness Walk at the Mound Building. Registration begins at 10 a.m., a presentation begins at 10:30, followed by the Walk. It is a collaborative effort by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program, and the Okmulgee County Family Resource Center. For more information contact Tina Qualls at (918) 732-7869.

> *"Violence against Native women was virtually unheard of prior to colonization. Thirty-four percent of Native American women nationally are reported as victims. I think those are conservative numbers from Native Americans."*
> — Professor Sarah Deer, recipient of the Allied Professional Award

Marx inducted into USA Martial Arts Hall of Fame

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

SAPULPA — Chebon Marx is a man that has dedicated himself to the martial arts for most of his life. He has not only committed himself to this, but has also shared his talents, by teaching others this discipline.

In Feb., Marx was recognized for his accomplishments. The USA Martial Arts Organization inducted Marx into their Hall of Fame.

"I was very fortunate and blessed to be around masters and grand masters in the martial arts," said Marx when talking about the ceremony and the interpretations of the martial arts that were presented there. "They [masters] had all different styles from all over the United States."

MNN/*Gerald Wofford*

Pictured above is Chebon Marx, who was recently inducted into the USA Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

Marx recalls his introduction to the martial arts, "When I was eight years old and attending Seneca Indian School, it was right after lunch time and there was a TV show featuring 'Grand Master Ed Parker' and Nick Adams, who was an actor and was being taught by Ed Parker and another gentleman who was an aging martial artist. They put on a demonstration and from then on, I was hooked and I knew that was my calling in life!"

Marx, though, knew this decision would take some time and a lesson in patience that would be learned throughout his life. He knew he did not have the financial means or local resources to begin to learn the martial arts as a youth.

Later in life, after serving overseas in the military, Marx knew he wanted to pursue his lifelong dream and a local martial arts academy was now near where he lived. Marx called the academy and they told him that they would call him back.

"Four months passed and I thought they may have forgotten about me," says Marx. When they did call, Marx was ready and immediately went to the academy to prepare for his first lesson, but he would soon learn that a willing heart did not exactly make up for lack of physical preparation.

"My first night in class, I collapsed, because I was not in shape."

This did not shake Marx's commitment though, but there would still be other lessons to learn. Marx's second night had him placed against an experienced artist and happened to hit Marx so hard that it knocked him out. Marx recalls waking up and immediately saying to the person who gave him the unfortunate hit, "Tell me what I did wrong, because I don't ever want to be hit like that again."

Marx's commitment would allow him to never be 'hit like that again' and his recent award is not the only recognition he has received. In 2002, Marx was also inducted into the World Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

Throughout his many travels, whether for honors or martial arts meetings, Marx is given a lot of attention because of his Native American heritage.

Throughout his life, Marx has found the peaceful attributes and discipline of the martial arts lifestyle to often reflect a Native American life that was taught to him through his elders; Marx credits his father, Pete Marx, and his grandfather who was a medicine man in teaching him how to be, "forgiving and living a peaceful life."

Being peaceful may be one good reason why Marx is often called the 'Peaceful Warrior' by many of his peers. The words say so on his martial arts outfit or 'gi' as it is called in Japanese.

Marx plans on continuing teaching others in his life this special art that has not only brought him recognition, but a peace that he will always have.

Family Language Camp to be offered Summer 2011

Media Release
MCN Language Program

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Language Program has hosted a Language Camp for the past four years for students interested in learning the language as well as learning how to make traditional arts and crafts.

The four-day event is packed with approximately 20 hours of language, hands-on lessons in making traditional arts and crafts, as well as fun-filled activities.

At the end of camp, the pride in the students' faces shows a little more knowledge of their identity and what it means to be Mvskoke. The uncertainty is how much of what they have learned remains with them and do they continue practicing when they return home.

Learning and maintaining a language involves family effort conversing in the language on a daily basis. Experience has proven that children and teens exhibit far more interest in developing their language skills when their parents are also engaged in the language acquisition process. That is why this year the Language Program will be hosting a Family Language Camp.

The Mvskoke Language Program invites families ages five years and older, including the parent(s), to participate in this year's Summer Family Language Camp. This year the theme for the camp is "Traditional Stompdance." Parents and children will share and experience a slice of Mvskoke life by learning the language, traditional arts and crafts, and mannerism associated with traditional stompdance.

If you and your family are serious about learning the Mvskoke language and culture, we invite you to attend this year's camp.

The language camp will once again be held at Western Hills in Wagoner, Okla., June 13-16, 2011.

Applications will be available on-line at the official Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web site at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/ or may be picked up at the Mvskoke Language Program in the Human Development Building on the MCN tribal complex.

Applications must be completed and returned to the Mvskoke Language Program no later than May 15, 2011, to allow time for final preparations for the camp.

The camp will be limited to 12 families, therefore, is is important for interested participants to submit application materials as soon as possible.

Guidelines for the camp are as follows:

- Must be a family composition of 4-6 household members,
- Must have a Muscogee (Creek) citizenship card,
- Must be accompanied by at least one parent or guardian who lives in the same household,
- Parent(s) or guardian will have full responsibility for their children,
- Parent(s) or guardian will participate with their children in all the lessons and activities.

Program Manager Kathleen Coachman encouraged all interested families to participate in these camps, further their efforts to learn the language and learn more about the Mvskoke culture.

"I look forward to seeing you at this year's camp. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at the Language Program at (918) 732-7641 or Mona (Koko) Lowe at (918) 732-7724," Coachman said.

OBITUARIES

RICHARD BOYLE

NICE, Calif., — Richard Lowell Boyle was born July 10, 1953 and passed from this world Feb. 8, 2011.

Boyle was proud of his Native American heritage and was known for his artistic, musical and poetical talents. He played flute and harmonica. He enjoyed camping, hiking, hunting, woodworking and landscaping. He loved children and older people and was always ready to help those in need. His great sense of humor drew people to him and he had an ability to uplift those around him.

Boyle is preceded in death by grandparents, Jess and Bessie Jones, daughter, Kimberley Boyle, and sisters Maxine Turner and Shirley (Robison) Fuchs.

He is survived by his best friend of 18 years Janie Robison, son Rick Boyle Jr., Mother Juanita, brothers, Danny, Mike, Mark and Bill, sisters Leanne Cox, Judy Jones, and Carrie Reader, children Mike, Danny, Eric, and Suzie, stepson Robie, Curtis and David, grandchildren, Travis, Tylers, Chance, Dylan, Angelic, Cadence, Athen, Alexis, Mariah, Roman, Sean and Samantha, and a host of nieces and nephews.

Boyle was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed by those who loved him.

GENEVA TAYLOR

TULSA — Geneva Ruth Taylor, a resident of Okemah, Okla., passed away on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 in Tulsa, Okla., at the age of 69 years.

She was born Nov. 20, 1941 in Henryetta to John Pigeon and Gertie McNac.

Geneva was preceded in death by her mother, Gertie Treadwell, sister Joyce Taylor, and husband Wesley Russell Taylor.

She is survived by father John Pigeon, two daughters: Jeanette Johnson of Okemah, and Sandra Foley of Tulsa; two sons: Tully Johnson of Okmulgee and Leslie Taylor of Tulsa; five brothers: Jim Billie of Portland, Jimmy Pigeon of Tulsa, , John Pigeon, Jr., of Okmulgee, Walter Pigeon of Okemah, and Billy Ray Pigeon of Cass Lake, M.N.; sister Priscilla Tecumseh of Okmulgee; 22 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, as well as many other relatives and friends.

Viewing for Geneva was held Thursday March 17, 2011 from 5 - 8 p.m., and on Friday March 18 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. A wake service was held Friday, March 18 at Hickory Ground #1 Church.

Funeral Services were held Saturday, March 19, 2011 at Hickory Ground #1 Church with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Burial followed the service at the Pigeon Family Cemetery under the direction of the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home of Henryetta.

MELVIN BRUNER

HOLDENVILLE — Melvin Douglas Bruner passed away at Holdenville General Hospital on Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at the age of 66.

Bruner was the son of George and Lizzie (Harjo) Brunner, Born on January 1y, 1945, in Claremore, Okla. He was brought up in the Tulsa and Sapulpa area and graduated Sequoyah Indian School at Tahlequah in 1964.

He attended the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas in 1964 and 1965. He enlisted during the Vietnam War for terms in the United States Army and served in Thailand and Germany before being honorably discharged in 1972.

He returned to Sapulpa, where he worked for 15 years at Liberty Glass Company as a shop mechanic. He owned and operated his own construction company for several years in the 1980s. He was diagnosed with leukemia in 1989 and was a 20-year survivor of the disease. Melvin moved to Holdenville in 1991, and has made his home there since that time. He was a member of the Little Cussetah Baptist Church of Sapulpa, and attended the Salt Creek United Methodist Church north of Holdenville. He was a shade tree mechanic, loved working on cars and tinkering with anything that could be built or repaired. He very much enjoyed the company of others and loved visiting and talking.

His parents, George and Lizzie Bruner; one brother, David Bruner, and one sister, Anne Inay, one nephew, John David Inay, one brother-in-law, Dave Inay, precede him in death.

He is survived by one brother, George Douglas Scott and wife Willena, of Holdenville; four sisters: Phyllis Warrington and spouse Kugee Supernaw of Skiatook, Deborah Clark of Wewoka, Georgetta Fixico and husband Paul of Sapulpa, and Wanda Bruner of Oklahoma City; one aunt, Alice Stevens of Tulsa; 10 nieces, three nephews, 37 great nieces and nephews, and nine great great nieces and nephews; numerous other relatives, extended family, and many friends.

Services were Saturday, April, 16, at Salt Creek United Methodist Church, with Rev. Jimmy Alexander and Rev. Edwin Jimboy officiating graveside rites. Pallbearers were nephews and great nephews. Honorary pallbearers were Tommy Harjo, Clarence Johnson, Roley Johnson, Butch Frazier, Freeland Butch Powell, Jerry Wilson, Paul Fixico, Andy Clark, Kenneth Brown, Alfred Wilson and Louis McGeeley.

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Bob McLemore
Patty Fletcher-McLemore

Send us your lifestyle news

To submit obits please mail to:
MCN Communications
PO Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK 74447
or email to:
aellis@mcncomm.com

ACCOMPLISHMENT

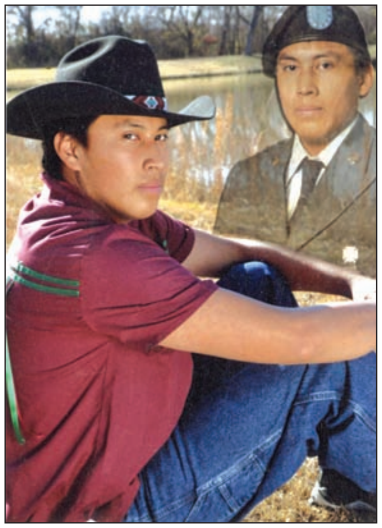
IAN DEO

OKMULGEE — Ian lane Deo recently placed first at the East Central wrestling match, second at the Union match and third at the Jenks match. Deo competed in the Novice Wrestling for Okmulgee Pinning Club in the Division II, 64 lb., category.

Deo is a student at Okmulgee Elementary and is in the third grade. He has one sister, Addison Deo. Deo is the grandson of Aline and the late Elmer Jack, Bill Deo Jr., and the late Sandy Long. His great grandparents are the late Mitchel and Louma Jack and the late Rev. Roley and Sarah Haynes.

Deo is of the Skunk Clan.

TYLER HILL



OKEMAH — Tyler Leevan Hill enlisted in the Army National Guard when he was a Junior in high school. He wanted to do something worthwhile during his lifetime and now he is going to be serving his country in Afghanistan. He is with the Ada unit which is part of the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team that will be leaving in early summer after combat training. Hill will be a part of one of the largest deployments for the state since the Korean War.

His parents are very proud of him and hope and pray for a safe return. Hill is the son of Rhonda Hill and Robert Fixico, Sr. He has three siblings, Kevin, Iena, and Missaley. His grandparents are Sally and the late Clarence Tiger and the late Oscar and Emma Fixico. His great grandparents are the late Van and Sophia Taryole.

Hill is of the Wind Clan and the Nuyaka Tribal Town.

JESSE MCDERMOTT

BROKEN ARROW — Jesse McDermott is a third grader at Arrow Springs Elementary in Broken Arrow. McDermott recently performed at the Arrow Springs Elementary Talent Show. His talent was playing the six-hole Native American Flute. During his performance he played “Amazing Grace.”

McDermott is the son of Micah and Tammy McDermott. Maternal grandparents are Marilyn and Ernie Reimer of Collinsville, and his

Paternal grandparents are Leroy and Sue McDermott of Glenpool. Jesse has one brother, Joshua.

McDermott belongs to the Hickory Ceremonial Grounds.

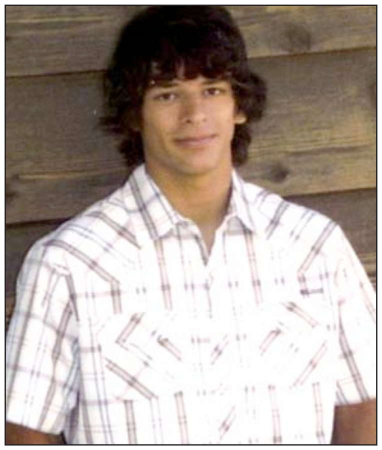
MEGAN MOWREY

PLYMOUTH, La., — Megan Elizabeth Mowrey, Graduated December 18, with a BA in Advertising from the University of Oklahoma, Gaylord College of Journalism Mass Communication, with a 3.13 GPA.

Megan is the daughter of Deanna Ryal Mowrey Brandt and the granddaughter of Woxie and Willie Ryal. Megan plans to work in the advertising field.

She is currently employed in Oklahoma City, in retail sales.

JEDEDIAH REECE



HAVEN, Kansas — Jedediah Palmer Reece graduated during the fall ceremony on Dec. 12, at Wichita State University. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology with a minor in chemistry. In the spring semester Reece will be studying at Kansas State University.

He was accepted and will attend Northeastern State University. Reece is the son of Phillip and Merri Reece of Haven, Kansas.

Grandparents are John and Martha Jane (Chalakee) Reece of Coweta and John and Edna Fowler of Haven, Kansas.

Great grandparents are the late Rev. John and Fannie (Berryhill) Chalakee.

JASON WAY JR.

JENKS — Jason Way Jr., of Jenks Middle School was a participant in the Oklahoma Choral Director’s All-State Festival held at Bethany, Okla., in Jan.

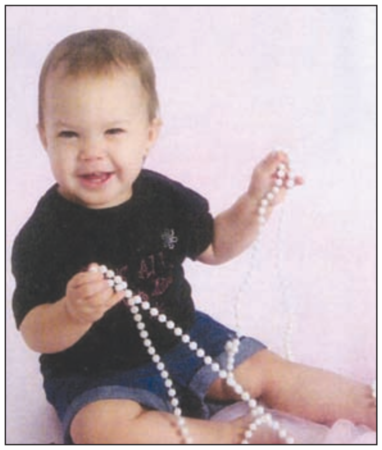
He was in the all state Junior High Mixed Chorus and the only student from Middle School in the event.

Way sings Tenor II and was one of five chosen from Jenks.

He is the son of Jason Way, Sr., of Tulsa and Lisa Way of Tulsa. His grandparents are J.C. and Linda Way of Sapulpa and his great grandmother is Catherine Evans of Kiefer.

BIRTHDAYS

GABRIELLE BEVENUE



MORRIS — Gabrielle Bevenue celebrated a birthday on April 1, 2011 with a ‘butterflies and bees’ theme party.

Bevenue is the daughter of Andrew and Carol Bevenue. Her grandparents are George and Tammy Johnson and Stoney and Yvonne McIntosh.

Great grandparents are the late Jack and Gayle Bevenue and the late Samuel Factor and Joanne Factor. Bevenue is of the Bird Clan.

DOMINIC CELESTINE

HENRYETTA— Dominic L. Celestine celebrated a birthday on March 28, 2011 with a Toy Story and Bounce U theme party.

Celestine is the son of Brandy Frye and Derrick Celestine. His grandparents are Tracy and Danna Smith and Mark Frye. His great grandparents are Mitchel and Estella Francis, Doris and John Counterman and Will Frye.

Celestine attends Yardeka Headstart and is of the Alligator Clan.

Grand Opening

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Southern Regional Office
April 29, 2011 – 10 a.m.

Services Available at this Office Include:

- Head Start
- SIPs Plant
- Reintegration Youth Program
- National Council
- MCN Child Support Enforcement
- Tax Commission
- Wetumka Indian Health Center
- Youth Wellness / Targeted Capacity Expansion Program
- Citizenship
- Election Board
- WIC
- Housing
- Lighthorse
- Food Distribution
- Social Services
- Child Care
- Behavioral Health

Your presence will be an honor as we celebrate this great event. The MCN Southern Regional Office is located at 333 S. Washita, in Wetumka, Okla. In case of inclement weather, the program will be held in the Wetumka High School Auditorium located directly East of the Southern Regional Office. For more information call (405) 452-1100.

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

May 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 8

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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Third time is charm

• CMN celebrates third graduating class

Courtesy/*Richard Harley*

Pictured above is the 2011 graduating class of the College of the Muscogee Nation, the third class to graduate from the institution since 2009.

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The new campus of the College of the Muscogee Nation hosted its first graduation ceremonies, April 22. It's actually the Colleges' third graduating class since it opened. This set of graduates is composed of 29 students awarded degrees in the areas in Native American Studies, Applied Science in Gaming, and Tribal Services with seven more receiving Certificates in Muscogee Language Studies and in Gaming.

For CMN President Robert Bible, this commencement exercise shows that the school has achieved its goals of educating the students and developing role models, "You feel like a proud parent, we know that we're making that feeling—a feeling of accomplishment—and knowing that we're making a difference in the students' lives, because their lifestyles are going to change, eventually."

SEE THIRD - A8

MCN opens Southern Regional Office

Rachel Mayberry
MNN Intern Reporter

WETUMKA — On a bright and windy morning, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation officially opened the Southern Regional Office in Wetumka, Okla., with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday, April 29, 2011.

Various tribal governmental officials, Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees and local citizens gathered for the grand opening and commemoration.

Some of the speakers included National Congress of American Indians President Jefferson Keel, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Director of Health Division Ed McLemore, National Council Rep. Thomas Yahola, Chief of Staff Edwin Marshall, Manager of Public Relations Thompson "Geebon" Gouge, Wetumka Mayor Brent McGee, Citizens Security Bank &Trust Weleetka branch Senior Vice-President Bob Nelson, as well as Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

SEE SATELLITE - A4

Higher Education Dept., sets June 1 deadline

Media Release
MCN Higher Education Dept.

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department is currently accepting new applications for the Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 academic year.

The Higher Ed BIA Grant (need based) and Tribal Grant (non-need based) applications are available in our office and on the Web site homepage under May Bulletins at: http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/ Closing date is June 1, 2011.

Prospective students:

1) Must be planning to attend a nationally accredited 2-year Community College or 4-year College/University for a first time degree.

SEE SCHOLARS - A6

A2 EXECUTIVE

Letter to the Editor

A3 LEGAL

Letter from the Editor

A5 CAPITOL NEWS

Council House adds monument

A7 CAPITOL NEWS

Sapulpa Indian Community hosts Mvskoke language class

A8 JUMPS

PK Propane

PK Propane
Power Up With PK!

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Absentee ballot request forms due Aug. 25

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released information for the upcoming 2011 elections. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don't receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685.

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

Candidate eligibility for Principal Chief and Second Chief:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 30 years old upon filing
- Legal resident within jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing
- Filing fees for Principal Chief are $550 and $425 for Second Chief - cashier's check or money order only

Candidate eligibility for National Council Representative:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 18 years and older
- Must be a legal resident of his/her district one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing

Article VI Section 2(b), when the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

When filing please have the following documents:

- Tribal enrollment card
- MCN voter card
- Cashier's check or money order for $200 filing fee

Verification of residence; candidates will need two (2) of the following:

- Income tax return for the preceding year
- Homestead exemption or copy of property tax
- Copy of house deed or statement from Creek Housing Authority containing dates of residency
- If renting; a notarized statement form the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord's address and phone number
- Utility bill in candidate's name
- Driver's License (with current address)

(Address must be the same on all documents)

Letter to the Editor

Citizen calls for reform in Calif., prison

SANTA ROSA, Calif., — Hensci-Estonko-Estonko-Os

Greetings, sister. I'm Mvskoke from Northern California, Santa Rosa better outside of San Francisco!

It was good to know that you had an opportunity to visit your alma mater for the "New Media in Indian Country" storytelling, March 30, this year. Sounds like you've been busy lately!

My name is Elvin Ray Buck. D.O.B. 7-18-78, born to Jean Brown. My grandmother is Annja J. Brown, and my great-great grandmother Adaline Hodge Orcutt, married into the family of Benjamin Perryman who came on the Trail of Tears to Okla. My tribal town is Big Springs of Bear Clan! So yes, it is good and I'm proud to be Mvskoke. You sent tribal calendars twice to me but this "County Jail Policy" took them as contraband and destroyed. This Sonoma County is not favorable to any Native American. More or less, a lot of prejudice, racially-motivated staff here at the jail!

I was recently released to a Drug/Alcoholic program called Jericho Project and was only there for a period of six days. I was terminated from the program for questioning their policies and procedures, for example, that I had long hair. The program policy stated shaved heads only and upon entering the program my braids were cut. I felt humiliated and embarrassed as my braids fell to the floor. A great sadness fell over me, for I try to walk in traditional manner, [with my] head held high as a Native American.

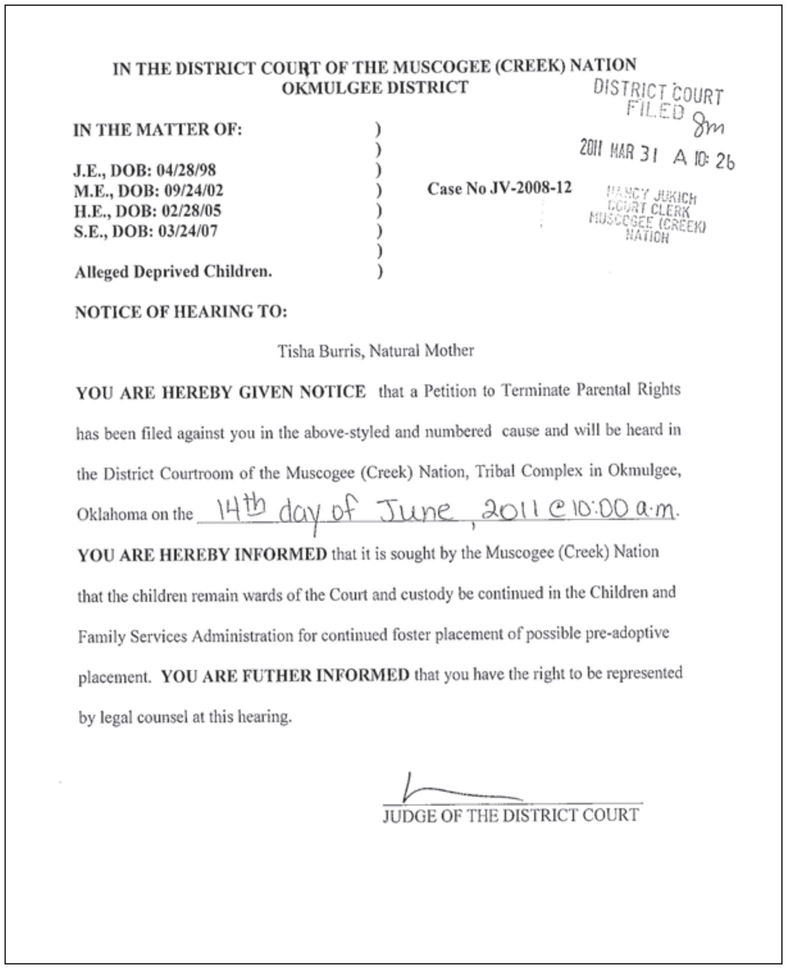
When I asked staff if I could send my braids to my ill mother, they said no and to move away from my hair as I watched them carelessly throw my braids away. I suddenly felt sick. A few days later, because of these new rules, policies and feeling displaced, I was on the back deck alone. I was praying to the Creator in Native language and was told by my house managers not to speak, pray or sing in any language other than the language of the English.

This inhumane act enforced upon me was unthinkable. Now I know how our Mvskoke elders must have felt in boarding school era to culturally assimilate us now. I know the feeling, on the day they kicked me out, my mother passed away. It's been two weeks now. My songs and prayers to the Creator still go in the wind!

I also pray for our Nation. It seems we're at a political stand-off with Mekko A.D. Ellis and a judge who refuses to step down from the bench. All we can do is pray to the Creator for some type of clarity, right? Well Sister, my the Creator bless you. Walk in beauty.

Mvto, cehecvres

- Elvin Buck



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED gm
2011 MAR 31 A 10: 26
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
J.E., DOB: 04/28/98)
M.E., DOB: 09/24/02) **Case No JV-2008-12**
H.E., DOB: 02/28/05)
S.E., DOB: 03/24/07)
)
Alleged Deprived Children.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tisha Burris, Natural Mother

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 14th day of June, 2011 @ 10:00 a.m.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Muscogee (Creek) Nation)
Plaintiff,)
v.) **Case No. CV 2011-**
)
Seven Hundred Thirteen Dollars and no/100)
)
Defendant.)

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Jason Kyle Cambell, 350 Spring Creek Pryor, OK 74361; and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

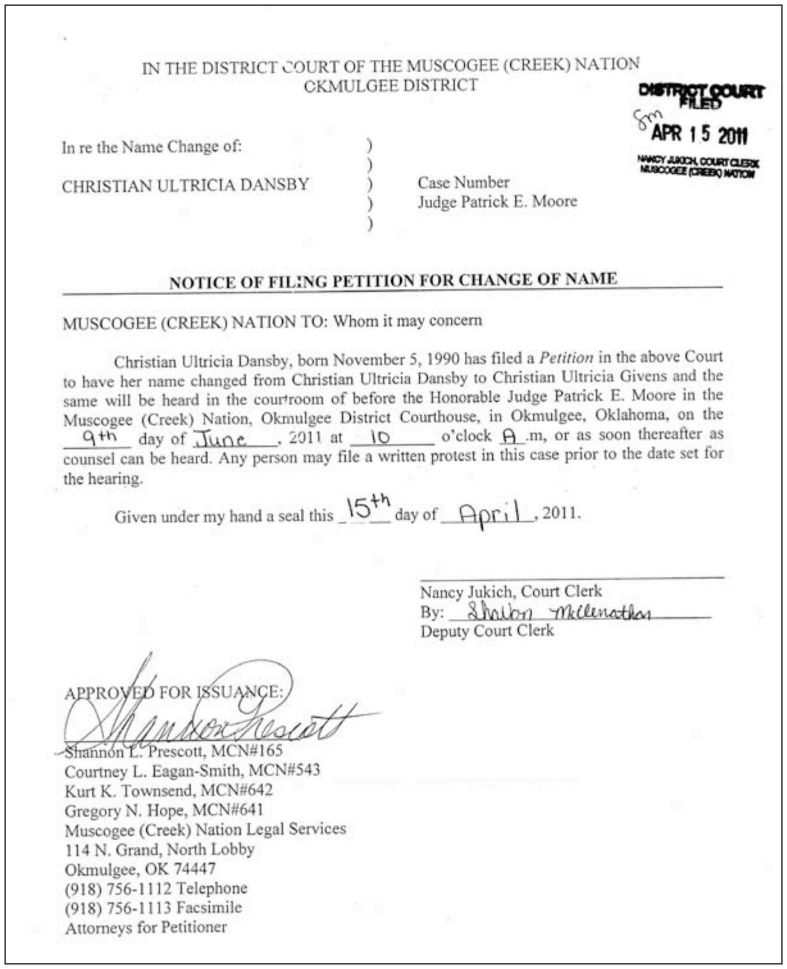
You are hereby notified that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 21 §,11-106, *et seq*.

Said property was seized on or about the 23rd day of January, 2011, from said Jason Kyle Cambell and forfeiture is sought for the reason that said defendant had money in his vehicle in close proximity to illegal drugs;

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property within forty-five days of notice after which time the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will move the Court for an Order of Forfeiture for said property.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brett E. Gray, Prosecutor
Muscogee Creek Nation
Department of Justice
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 295-9720



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
gm APR 15 2011
NANCY JUKICH, COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the Name Change of:)
)
CHRISTIAN ULTRICIA DANSBY) Case Number
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

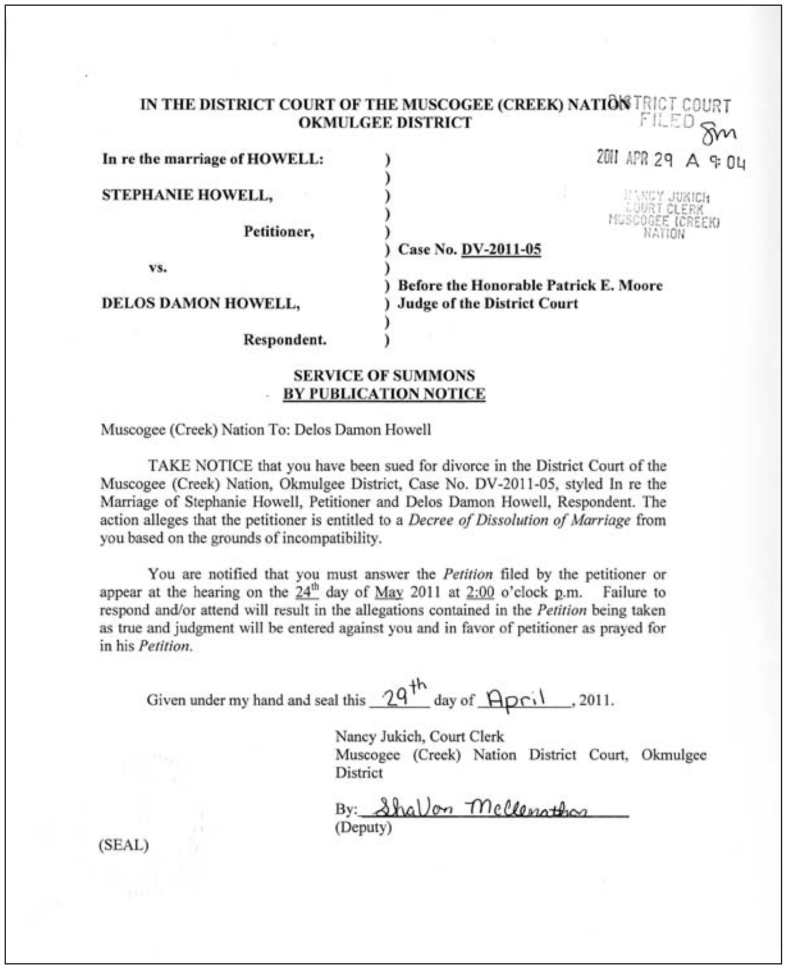
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Christian Ultricia Dansby, born November 5, 1990 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed from Christian Ultricia Dansby to Christian Ultricia Givens and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 9th day of June, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 15th day of April, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Shalon Mcllenathan
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:
Shannon Prescott
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED gm
2011 APR 29 A 9: 04
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the marriage of HOWELL:)
)
STEPHANIE HOWELL,)
)
Petitioner,)
) **Case No. DV-2011-05**
vs.)
) **Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore**
DELOS DAMON HOWELL,) **Judge of the District Court**
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Delos Damon Howell

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2011-05, styled In re the Marriage of Stephanie Howell, Petitioner and Delos Damon Howell, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 24th day of May 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 29th day of April, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shalon Mcllenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko!

May 1, 2011 marks my first (and only, so far, even though I try to persuade my sister otherwise) nephew, Aden's fifth birthday. In a marathon weekend of parties, soccer games and family, I also got the opportunity to volunteer for an actual marathon, too.

This was my second year working a water stop for the 11th Annual Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon and it certainly didn't disappoint. Hours of rain, wind and chilly temperatures didn't discourage staff, volunteers and over 20,000 runners from staying the course and finishing the race. For some, the event marked a significant step in their dedication to health. For others, the connection to a lost loved one kept them motivated to keep moving forward, despite the miserable conditions.

One of my best friends, JC, competed in the race and I always have the greatest admiration for him when he completes a half-marathon. It takes an enormous amount of training and patience to run, walk or wheel oneself across the finish line.

I pray this Nation will keep the citizens in mind as it makes some very important decisions this year. There are plenty of people that are cheering us on from the sidelines, we just have to put on our running shoes and get going!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Southern

Continued from A1

Ellis praised former Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, who was in attendance, for his vision. Ellis said that Beaver had always felt such a service should be provided. He agreed with Ellis there was a need to help Creek citizens residing in the southern tribal boundaries that may not be able to travel to the tribal capitol complex located in Okmulgee.

The main office, located at 333 S. Washita in Wetumka, will provide services at specific times throughout the week, where representatives from the main offices in Okmulgee will be available. Services provided include: Election Board, Behavioral Health, Reintegration, Youth Wellness, Citizenship, Social Services, National Council, Child Support, WIC, Office of Child Care, Food Distribution, Wetumka Indian Health Center, Housing, Housing SIPS Plant, Lighthorse and Tax Commission.

Thomasene Osborn, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Development Specialist, said she approached Housing Director, Ron Qualls, about starting a branch of the Housing Division in Wetumka around May 2006.

"I knew we had a lot of citizens that needed assistance in this area and I wanted them to have the opportunity to receive help in this central local area without having to travel to Okmulgee for paperwork and taking care of the steps needed so far out of town," Osborn said. "We then got to visit about expanding the services here."

Osborn said she also felt fortunate to meet a lot of helpful tribal employees from other departments during the process of establishing the Southern Region office, and felt she wouldn't have had the opportunity to meet them if it weren't for the building renovation and set up.

MNN/*Gerald Wofford*

National Council Rep. Lena Wind and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis cut the ribbon at the grand opening of the Southern Regional Office on April 29, 2011.

Osborn said before renovation, the building was an old hospital that had been abandoned almost three years due to financial struggles.

"I believe the City of Wetumka felt they were in over their heads with the burden of having it in their possession for no useful reason, so we purchased the building and surrounding land from them for $10,000," Osborn said. "Those three years before, the hospital literally just shut the doors, leaving beds, TVs, medicine, patient records and various other furniture behind."

Osborn then took on the tasks of cleaning, sanitizing and preparing the building for rehabilitation and construction work.

"A lot of the leftover sheets, supplies and syringes left over, I was able to donate to local non-profit charities and church missionaries traveling overseas," Osborn said. "Medicines that might have been out-dated and obsolete to doctors and clinics here in the U.S., would gladly be accepted in other countries who might not hold to the same medical standards we do."

Osborn said the Nation made the decision to hire their SIP plant employees early, so that in the meantime they could assist with rehabilitation of the main building, therefore saving money.

"The hospital used to be three sections. We have now demolished one section for parking and conjoined one part of the original building to another," Osborn said.

Osborn said it was legislation sponsored by Thomas Yahola that really pushed plans for the Southern Region Office forward.

"With Wetumka being such a centrally-located area within the southern Creek District, it was almost a given that this would be a prime opportunity to build the community's economy," Osborn said. "The placement of these offices also assists in creating a nearby, local means for our citizens to gain employment and receive assistance they need without having to drive all the way to Okmulgee for our available programs."

Osborn said Principal Chief A.D. Ellis has done an excellent job of creating a comfortable atmosphere and making citizens who arrive for business and assistance feel welcome within the Tribal Complex in the Muscogee (Creek) Capitol of Okmulgee.

"This is the same outlook and atmosphere I try to achieve with our Southern Region citizens as well," Osborn said. "I do my best to make them feel valued in every possible way and see them as more than just someone facing me across the desk."

Osborn said there have been quite a few requests for assistance in the Wetumka area this past year with departments other than Housing.

"About 80 percent of my job here at the Southern Region offices lately has been in regard to Social Services and areas like Summer Youth program," Osborn said. "Beginning a year ago, I started downloading forms from our Web site and if anyone needed a program, like LIHEAP, even if it was out of my scope, I was happy to help them."

Osborn said she is willing to help citizens in the area needing Muscogee (Creek) assistance forms or applications of any kind, by having them come to the Southern Region complex, filling it out completely on-site and she will either fax it to the Okmulgee Main complex or send it over in official envelopes.

"For my family and I, this was an opportunity we had to take," Osborn said. "We are hard-workers; this has been my project for the last five years, but I really think it kind of chose us."

For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Southern Regional Office at (405) 452-1100.

Commemorating progress: by the numbers

•The overall Native American population of Oklahoma is 8.6 percent.

•Among the overall population in Wetumka, 34 percent of citizens are Native American.

•The average Native population of the Creek Nation Southern Region, McIntosh, Tukabutchee (Hughes) and Okfuskee Districts is 19 percent.

• Holdenville - 18 percent, Weleetka - 27 percent, Wetumka - 35 percent, Eufaula - 19 percent, Okemah - 27 percent, Dustin - 38 percent.

•The total tribal population for these three districts is 15,555, or 22 percent of total tribal enrollment of 71,110 nationwide.

•The MCN has committed and expended $10,341,659 on 11 road construction and improvement projects in this region during the current tribal administration alone.

- Hughes County - $5,173,066
- McIntosh County - $2,208292
- Okfuskee County - $2,960,301

• In addition, the MCN has just completed the rehabilitation of a portion of old Hwy. 69 in McIntosh County at a cost of $1,916,597 with stimulus funds.

MCN School Clothing Program applications now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, will be accepting applications for school clothing beginning Monday, May 2, 2011. Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of October 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek Citizen students no matter where you live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program consist of:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least 3 years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be 4 years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade. All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.
- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200.00. (Example: If you received $400.00 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350.00, you will be eligible to receive $200.00.) Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.00.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social

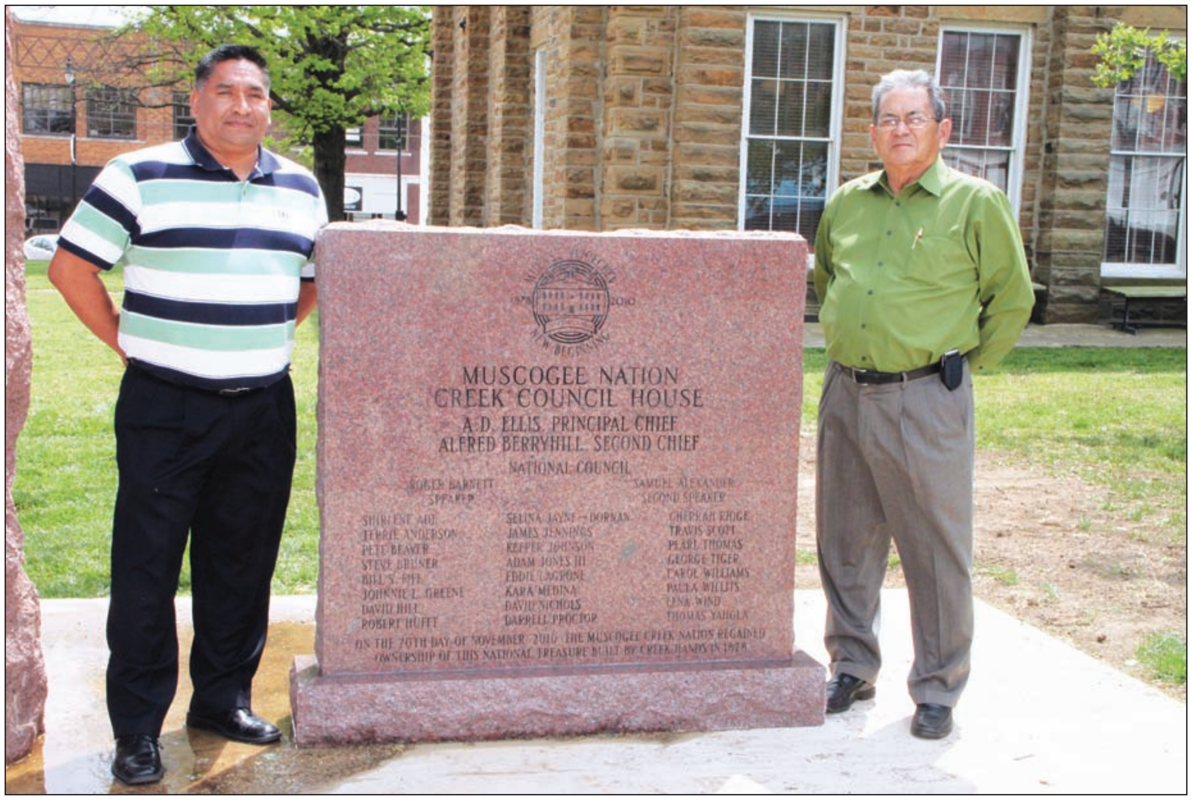
Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center.
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center.
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447. Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

Muscogee Nation Creek Council House adds Celebration Monument


1878
2010
NEW BEGINNING
MUSCOGEE NATION
CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE
A.D. ELLIS PRINCIPAL CHIEF
ALFRED BERRYHILL SECOND CHIEF
NATIONAL COUNCIL
ROGER BARNETT
SPEAKER
SAMUEL ALEXANDER
SECOND SPEAKER
ON THE 20TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2010 THE MUSCOGEE CREEK NATION REGAINED
OWNERSHIP OF THIS NATIONAL TREASURE BUILT BY CREEK HANDS IN 1878

MCNPR/*Thompson Gouge*

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Speaker Roger Barnett and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis with the Muscogee Nation Creek Council House Celebration Monument. This monument represents the New Beginnings Celebration of when the Muscogee (Creek) Nation regained ownership of the Creek Council House, held on Nov. 20, 2010.

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MCN Skate Zone now open for business

Rachel Mayberry
MNN Intern Reporter

EUFAULA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Eufaula Skating Rink, formerly known as The Rink, was re-opened March 26, 2011. The grand opening was held for all Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens. Attendees enjoyed refreshments, door prizes and free skating after the short opening ceremony, which was conducted by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Chief of Staff Edwin Marshall and Executive Director Claude Sumner.

The tribe acquired the property, which was formerly used as a tribal community event center and meeting site, in Nov. It was closed shortly thereafter for renovation, which included a new roof and air conditioning units before it could be re-opened.

Anita Freeman, Manager of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research and Development, said the building's main features, apart from the skate floor, include a party room, arcade games, pool tables, concession stand and dining area.

"We are looking to expand the arcade game area as well with a few more machines, as time goes by, since we still have plenty of space to work with in adding equipment," Freeman said.

Sumner said the skating rink would be a great opportunity not only for expanded tourism, but also tribal adolescent and children within the Nation's borders.

"We are looking forward to giving our children and youth even more to do on the weekends in our district region," Sumner said.

Sumner said the Nation is also planning to add a health initiative by creating a tournament-style junior roller hockey league and other weekly activities.

"We like to promote healthy living practices in the Nation in any way we can," Sumner said. "A great example is the walking track we installed here on the complex grounds a few years ago."

Lillie Murrell manages Skate Zone, which is currently under the direction of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research & Development. An Easter egg-hunt is scheduled at the skating rink Saturday, April 23 beginning at 7 p.m., along with regular skating activities.

The Skate Zone is now open Friday and Saturday evenings from 7-10 p.m., and available for booking parties and meetings. Skate Zone will be open Monday through Saturday and closed Wednesdays. Operating hours will be expanded in the near future by adding an afternoon session from 3-6 p.m. Admission is $6.00 per session.

For more information, please contact Lillie at (918) 689-4111.

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Steve Randall
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Wiyo Publishing Company

Head Start now accepting applications

Media Release
MCN Head Start

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application.

All races and ethnicities may apply. Interested applicants should begin the application process now, as it does take some time to complete.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

Division of Health sponsoring focus group

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is looking for people to volunteer their time to participate in a focus group which will concentrate on patient experiences within Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers.

Parties interested participating in the focus group regarding Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers may contact Anne Edwards, Patient Advocacy Coordinator at (918) 756-3334 ext. 287, call 1-877-579-4911 or e-mail anne.edwards@creekhealth.org

OCMA to host open candidate forum

Media Release
Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Assn.

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association (OCMA) will host a moderated Muscogee (Creek) Nation Candidates Forum on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Glorieta Baptist Church, Gymnasium located at 7308 S. Western, in Oklahoma City, Okla., 73139.

All Muscogee (Creek) Nation candidates running for office have been invited to participate in the forum.

The purpose of this forum is to give candidates an opportunity to address issues vital to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens who reside in Oklahoma City or outside the boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. There will be opportunities for the audience to ask candidates questions during the forum. The goal is to offer voting citizens the opportunity to make an informed election decision.

For more information, please contact Ruby Harjo at (405) 808 - 6387.

Scholars

Continued from A1

2) Must possess a CDIB and Creek Tribal Enrollment cards.

3) Apply for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.ed.gov and through the university financial aid office

4) Return completed applications and all required documents before the closing date June 1.

Reminder to all continuing students, who have applied and are on our program, there is no need to make a new application. Students need only to complete and return renewal forms for the 11/12 academic year to our address below by June 1st. Continuing students must also send Spring 11 official transcripts at the end of the term.

Students who are planning to attend specialized, business or vocational-type schools for a license, certificate for less than 2-year program, may call Creek Nation Employment & Training Office at (918) 732-7774.

Post Graduate applications will be available on our website on July 1 and the closing date is October 15, 2011.

Send complete applications to Creek Nation Higher Education Department, P O Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. For further information or inquiries please call 918-732-7688 or 7689 or contact cdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or jothill@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

Sapulpa Creek Indian Community hosts Mvskoke language class

Media Release
Sapulpa Creek Indian Community

SAPULPA — Muscogee (Creek) citizens and other area Native Americans are invited to learn the fundamentals of the Creek language during the months of April, May and June.

In partnership with the Mvskoke Language Program of the Creek Nation, an introductory Creek Language Class will be held April 26 – June 2 at the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community Center, 1020 N. Brown St. Classes are scheduled from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Ms. Daria Hicks will serve as the Introductory Creek Language Course Instructor. It is a 6-week course designed to give the Creek student a minimal understanding of the function of Creek literacy and other aspects of Creek culture. Students will learn the Creek alphabet, vocabulary and grammar, and conversational phrases and perhaps even a few Creek hymns.

“Sapulpa was fortunate to have been chosen as one of the Creek communities to host a language class this spring,” said Jo Anna Fixico, Chairman of the Sapulpa Indian Community. “Daria has previously taught a Creek language course here in Sapulpa, and everyone is certainly looking forward to her return. It is our hope that a new segment of our members—or even a new generation, will have the opportunity to learn conversational Creek in an intimate setting.”

The Mvskoke Language Program is dedicated to the preservation of and the revitalization of the Creek language by connecting with tribal elders, and teaching adult citizens and children the significance of reading, writing and speaking the language of our ancestors. The program is available as a Creek language resource, including but not limited to, audio and visual language instruction available on DVDs and CDs.

Registration for this course is free for all Muscogee (Creek) citizens and to enrolled members of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community (SCIC). There is no charge for Sapulpa area Native American residents to join the SCIC (note: all SCIC membership records must be up-to-date). However, tribal enrollment card and/or CDIB card, along with other requested documentation, must be presented. Non-Indian class participants must register at the SCIC office and provide a nominal donation fee.

About SCIC

The Sapulpa Creek Indian Community is a Chartered Community (est. 1983) of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and is a non-profit membership organization which serves to promote cultural programs and activities for the enjoyment of Sapulpa’s American Indians.

For more information on the Mvskoke (Creek) Language class, please contact the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community at (918) 227-9627 or Ms. Daria Hicks, Language Instructor, at (918) 732-7646. Or visit: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Third

Continued from A1

"We've got a lot of families here that are seeing somebody in their family graduate college for the first time, and 'Hey, if they can do it, I can do it.'"

Part of the college's success, he says, is in providing a comfortable learning environment to build on, "We know that when they leave here, they won't go to a predominantly Native-American college, however, we have shown them that they can be successful in the college classroom."

Dr. C. Blue Clark, Vice-Chair of the Board of Regents feels the tribe has gained control of its educational future, "This achievement brings tears to my eyes, literally, because, after years of work, of many people, --we are within grasp of achieving our own educational program for ourselves and our own people."

Christi Yates, received her degree in Tribal Services and was still glowing after receiving her diploma. She reflected on her decision to attend the CMN, "It gave me a lot of interpersonal skills, it gave me huge experience in learning the culture that I was looking for and to learn how everyone is faced with some kind of limits whether we be white, black, Indian." This school fills an important role in Muscogee culture Yates adds, "To keep our spirit alive, to keep our heritage going, and to grow."

Dean of Academic Affairs Angela Bunner has the job of making sure that students meet their program requirements to complete their educational agendas. She's watched them take charge of their lives and learning plan "It's pretty exciting. You see them as they first step onto campus. They're timid and introverted. You can see that intimidated look. But, as they go on, you can see them begin to evolve, to be a college student. You can see that confidence." Bunner credits an understanding and comfortable setting at the Native school for some of the success. "I think it's everything here that contributes. It's the support by the faculty, staff and other students. They're all Natives with similar backgrounds, communities and families they can relate to. It's a 'home away from home.' "

The College of the Muscogee Nation is building credibility with the tribal government, the State of Oklahoma, other educational institutions and other tribes, too. It has developed an educational relationship with Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology (OSU-IT) and is working on its second phase of accreditation. Bible is hoping the college can receive full accreditation in 2015. Representatives of the Kiowa Tribe recently visited the college as a possible blueprint for their own future higher education efforts. Long-distance education for Muscogee tribal communities is in the plans, and Bible hopes the college can serve rural Muscogee communities that way.

The College of the Muscogee Nation's next job is to continue growth. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has shown its support by increasing funding support each year. Bible is now working to add to the educational experience by adding student housing to the $7 million college and another $3.5 million for student housing. He points out the tribe has over $20 million invested in the College and has continued its commitment.

There are 37 tribal colleges across the United States. Three other tribes in Okla., have set up their own colleges beside the Muscogee (Creek) including the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, the Pawnee Nation, and the Comanche Nation.

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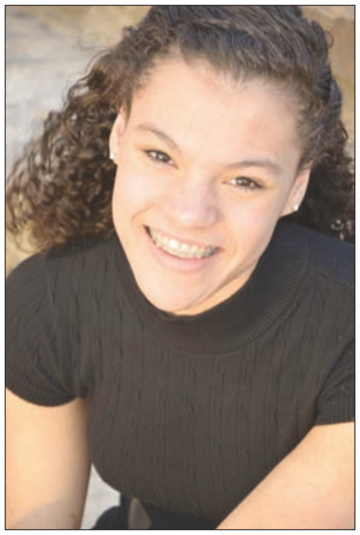
FEATURES

Creek finalist in National American Miss

• Barker selected as participant in national competition

Media Release
National American Miss Pageant



BROKEN ARROW — Muscogee (Creek) Nation's own Breonna Malita-June Barker, 13, from Broken Arrow, has been selected to participate as a finalist in the 2011 National American Miss Pageant for the State of Oklahoma.

Breonna attends Sequoyah Middle School in Broken Arrow, Okla., where she maintains a 4.0 grade point average, and is a member of the National Jr. Honors Society. Some of her interest includes painting, spending time with friends, and competitive swimming for SwimTulsa swim club.

The National American Miss is a program like no other, designed to help young girls develop an empowering poise and self-confidence. Breonna is determined to do her best to represent her faith, family, and members of the Broken Arrow community that have helped to support this opportunity.

Breonna will participate in early July to compete against 29 other girls ages 13 to 15 for the title of Miss Oklahoma Jr.-Teen. Currently, Breonna is sponsored by friends and family and hopes to find more sponsors in the coming months.

A press release from National American Miss states that the pageants are "dedicated to celebrating America's future leaders and equipping them with life-long skills."

"The National American Miss Pageants are unlike any other," the press release states. "All activities and competitions are kept age appropriate. Girls under the age of 12 are not allowed to wear make-up, and there is no swimsuit competition. The pageant program is based on inner beauty, as well as poise and presentation and offers an All-American spirit of fun for family and friends. Emphasis is put on the importance of developing self confidence, learning good sportsmanship, as well as setting and achieving personal goals."

For more information about the National American Miss pageants, visit www.namiss.com.

Festival activities include $5,000 raffle

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — A $5,000 cash give-away will take place as part of the 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival. Entrants must be enrolled Creek citizens and present their tribal citizenship card to register at the Omniplex Gift Shop on Friday, June 24. There is no pre-registration and it is limited to once a person. The winner will be announced later that evening after 6 p.m.

For more information, please contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7992.

2011 MNN graduate edition coming soon

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The *Muscogee Nation News* will be featuring 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation graduates in an upcoming summer edition.

Graduate submissions should include full name of graduate, photo (will not be returned), school, university or technical institution, parents, ceremonial ground, church, tribal town, clan and any awards/accomplishments.

Information may be submitted through mail, fax or e-mail to Gfife@muscogeenation-nsn.gov (preferred) and must be received no later than Friday, June 3, 2011 by 5 p.m., in the MCN Communications Department.

Please send submissions to: MCN Communications Dept.
C/O Gary Fife
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

For more information, contact Gary Fife at (918) 732-7697.

Head Start now accepting applications

Media Release
MCN Head Start

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application. All races and ethnicities may apply.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

B2 CULTURAL
Mvskoke Country: *Kv-Hvse, "Mulberry Month"*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR
Citizen Speak-Out set for May 7

B4 SPOTLIGHT
Museum to feature Muscogean mound

B7 PEOPLE
Birthday: Paula Willits

B8 AD
37th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival

Mvskoke Country: *Ke-Hvse,* "Mulberry Month"

by James Treat

The calendar year in Mvskoke country winds down with a couple of months named for edible fruits: *kē*, "mulberry," and *kvco*, "blackberry." And like only one other month in *cokv-walv* Mvskoke (*Hotvlē-Hvse*, "Wind Month"), their traditional names include the word for "month" itself, presumably to avoid confusion between each month and its namesake. The remaining nine months bear distinctive names and thus don't need to be specified as *hvse*.

Kē is the Mvskoke word for "mulberry," and it's also the way you pronounce the letter "k" in the Mvskoke language, a semantic association that could serve as a handy teaching tool. An alphabet book designed for Mvskoke-speaking youngsters, for example, would undoubtedly use mulberries to illustrate the letter "k." Am I the only one who wishes we had a children's book titled "M is for Mvskoke?"

Like many flowering plants, mulberry trees are native to warmer climates around the world. The species unique to eastern North America is commonly called red mulberry, from the scientific designation *Morus rubra*. An older Mvskoke term for the tree is *kē-vpē*, literally "mulberry stalk."

Travelling through Mvskoke country in the 1770s, botanist William Bartram found an abundance of *kē-vpē*, especially near the agricultural fields once cultivated by our ancestors. Encamped on the banks of the Oconee River, at the site of an old Mvskoke tribal town, he listed mulberries among the many species growing there:

"This flourishing grove was an appendage of the high forests we had passed through, and projected into an extensive, green, open, level plain, consisting of old Indian fields and plantations, being the rich low lands of the river, and stretching along its banks upwards to a very great distance, charmingly diversified and decorated with detached groves and clumps of various trees and shrubs, and indented on its verge by advancing and retreating promontories of the high land."

Mulberries are an understory species typically found in mixed stands of deciduous forest. These small, shade-tolerant trees prefer moist soils and edge habitats, and today you can still find them sprouting around low-lying pastures and along the margins of fields. Both male and female mulberries flower in the spring, but only females produce berries; the fruit of red mulberry trees is known for its large size and strong, sweet flavor.

Not all of the mulberries Bartram saw were wild. He noted considerable evidence of old orchards populated with red mulberries and other food-bearing trees, concluding that "these trees were cultivated by the ancients, on account of their fruit, as being wholesome and nourishing food. Though these are natives of the forest, yet they thrive better, and are more fruitful, in cultivated plantations, and the fruit is in great estimation with the present generation of Indians." *Kē* ranked among the "principle articles" of their "vegitable productions," constituting "a considerable part" of the Mvskoke diet. "They dry the fruite on boards in large cakes, which they keep in store, & stew it with bread, parch't corn flower & oil."

European colonists were quick to assimilate this indigenous commodity. At Ebenezer, in the Georgia colony, Bartram found a village of German settlers where "the Town is laid out in large Squairs so that every family has ground sufficient to plant a Mulberry Orchard, a Garden, & a Cornfield." Visiting a plantation near the South Carolina coast, he observed a large orchard of imported white mulberry (Morus alba), "some of which were grafted on stocks of the native Mulberry (Morus rubra); these trees were cultivated for the purpose of feeding silk-worms," a commercialized insect wholly dependent on mulberry leaves. As was so often the case, immigrants saw profit where Indians had seen only provision.

Kē was a staple food for Mvskokes in the old country, so they marked time with the help of *kē-vpē* blossoms. According to one account of Mvskoke origins, documented at Pine Arbor Tribal Town in North Florida, the beginning was an age of great confusion. All beings existed without a place: "It isn't very pleasant to be nowhere. It's like being lost, only worse." Thanks to the efforts of Turtle, Duck, and many others, the world was made and ordered and "everything now had an appointed place." Then "a great Ceremonial Square Ground" was established, where important traditions could be nurtured.

It is said that seasonal variation began as a reminder of the trauma of creation: "For a season, cold and frost will be with you as a bitter memory and lesson, but berry and blossom will come forth to remind you of when all sat down together to learn and to seek balance and harmony. At the time of the Mulberry Blossom, all shall come together again and seek to renew these teachings."

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments, as well as your suggestions. You can reach me by e-mail at treaty@illinois.edu

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Family Language Camp to be offered Summer 2011

Media Release
MCN Language Program

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Language Program has hosted a Language Camp for the past four years for students interested in learning the language as well as learning how to make traditional arts and crafts.

The four-day event is packed with approximately 20 hours of language, hands-on lessons in making traditional arts and crafts, as well as fun-filled activities.

At the end of camp, the pride in the students' faces shows a little more knowledge of their identity and what it means to be Mvskoke. The uncertainty is how much of what they have learned remains with them and do they continue practicing when they return home.

Learning and maintaining a language involves family effort conversing in the language on a daily basis. Experience has proven that children and teens exhibit far more interest in developing their language skills when their parents are also engaged in the language acquisition process. That is why this year the Language Program will be hosting a Family Language Camp.

The Mvskoke Language Program invites families ages five years and older, including the parent(s), to participate in this year's Summer Family Language Camp. This year the theme for the camp is "Traditional Stompdance." Parents and children will share and experience a slice of Mvskoke life by learning the language, traditional arts and crafts, and mannerism associated with traditional stompdance.

If you and your family are serious about learning the Mvskoke language and culture, we invite you to attend this year's camp.

The language camp will once again be held at Western Hills in Wagoner, Okla., June 13-16, 2011.

Applications will be available on-line at the official Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web site at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/ or may be picked up at the Mvskoke Language Program in the Human Development Building on the MCN tribal complex.

Applications must be completed and returned to the Mvskoke Language Program no later than May 15, 2011, to allow time for final preparations for the camp.

The camp will be limited to 12 families, therefore, is is important for interested participants to submit application materials as soon as possible.

Guidelines for the camp are as follows:

- Must be a family composition of 4-6 household members,
- Must have a Muscogee (Creek) citizenship card,
- Must be accompanied by at least one parent or guardian who lives in the same household,
- Parent(s) or guardian will have full responsibility for their children,
- Parent(s) or guardian will participate with their children in all the lessons and activities.

Program Manager Kathleen Coachman encouraged all interested families to participate in these camps, further their efforts to learn the language and learn more about the Mvskoke culture.

"I look forward to seeing you at this year's camp. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at the Language Program at (918) 732-7641 or Mona (Koko) Lowe at (918) 732-7724," Coachman said.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Springfield annual Memorial Gospel Singing

OKEMAH — Springfield United Methodist Church will host their annual Memorial Gospel Singing on May 29 beginning at 7 p.m.

Rev. David Little will be the emcee and concessions will be available.

NAWS Tike Chapman Memorial Golf Tournament

CATOOSA — The Native American Warriors Society is holding their first annual SGT Tike Chapman Memorial Golf Challenge to help support Native American troops Saturday, July 30 at the Cherokee Hills Golf Club.

Registration begins at 7 a.m., and Shotgun Start begins at 8 a.m. There will be a 4-person scramble. Hole and team sponsorships are available for $125 for an individual and $400 for teams.

Entry fee includes: green fees, cart fees, range balls, lunch, goodie bags, Return Play Foursome and a discount card from Cherokee Hills.

For more information, contact Dwayne or Yvonne Cahwee at (918) 946-8024 or visit http://nawtulsa.angelfire.com/okla/

Thunder Road Theater Company Benefit Dinner And Craft Sale

TULSA — To raise money for its upcoming season, Thunder Road Theater Company is holding a Traditional Native American dinner and arts and crafts sale.

The event will take place Saturday, May 7, 2011 at the Tulsa Creek Indian community center, located at 8611 South Union Avenue (Take the 81st St. exit off Highway 75 and turn south on Union. TCIC is located on the east side of the road).

The Tiger family from Pecan Grove will be preparing the meal.

$6 a plate includes a choice of chicken, salt meat, pork chops, with beans, rice, corn soup, biscuit or frybread, tea, or coffee, pie or cake. Soda, sofke and blue bread will be sold separately and takeout is available. Thunder Road Theater Company's summer project is a collectively created Muscogee language play, to be followed by a main stage play in the fall.

For more information about Thunder Road Theater Company and the dinner, visit web.me.com/thunderroadtheater or contact Deena Tiger at (918) 630-0067.

Creek hymn singing

HOLDENVILLE — There will be a Native Creek hymn singing at Middle Creek #2 Baptist Church in Holdenville, Saturday, May 7, 2011, at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served from 4-5:30 p.m. Tape recorders are welcome.

For more information, please contact George at (405) 712-0042.

Gospel singing

YEAGER — A gospel singing will be held at Yeager Mission United Methodist Church, Saturday, May 7, 2011, at 7 p.m. The service will be lead by M.C. David Little. Everyone is welcome and all gospel groups are invited.

For directions, call (405) 592-9495 or (405) 712-3082.

Festival Junior Olympics deadline set for May 13

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Junior Olympics will be held Friday, June 24, 2011 at the Okmulgee High School football stadium.

Registration forms will be sent out and asked to be returned no later than May 13, 2011.

Registering on the day of the event is absolutely prohibited. Coaches who know someone who has/had a team in the past Olympics and has not received a packet; please pass on the information given so they may obtain the materials needed. They ask that no information be faxed. For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health, Attn: Bryan or Janetta, P.O. Box 2428 Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Scott Reunion

LONGTOWN — The descendants of Samuel Scott and Nancy McIntosh Scott or Daniel Scott, John Scott, Benny Scott and Hepsey Scott Lewis will host the 21st Annual Scott Family Reunion on June 4, 2011, at the Hwy. 9 Community Center, located in Longtown, Okla., from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Meat and drinks will be supplied, so attendees are asked to bring a covered dish, salad or dessert. If you need more information, call: Helena Girod at (918) 451-1932 or e-mail hgirod@cinemareview.com.

Creek Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament deadline set for June 3, 2011

OKMULGEE — The 37th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Slow-Pitch Softball tournament will be held June 17-19 at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

Friday's game will begin at 6:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday's games will both be at 8 a.m. Entry forms are now available at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Please mail the entry form, roster and $175 entry fee to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism and Recreation, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok 74447.

Deadline is June 3, 2011. Cashiers check or money orders can be made payable to MCN Festival Committee.

For more information, contact: Mike Sands, at (918) 605-4048 or MCN Tourism and Recreation, at (918) 732-79922. ASA rules apply. Visit www.asasoftball.com

SCIC host benefit fund raiser traditional dinner

SAPULPA — The Sapulpa Creek Indian Community, located at 1020 N. Brown St., will host a traditional dinner fund raiser on Saturday, June 4, 2011 beginning at 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

Creek Speak-Out set for May 7

HOLDENVILLE — A Creek Speak-Out will be held at the Holdenville Indian Community Center beginning at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 7.

For more information, please send inquiries to creekspeakout@yahoo.com .

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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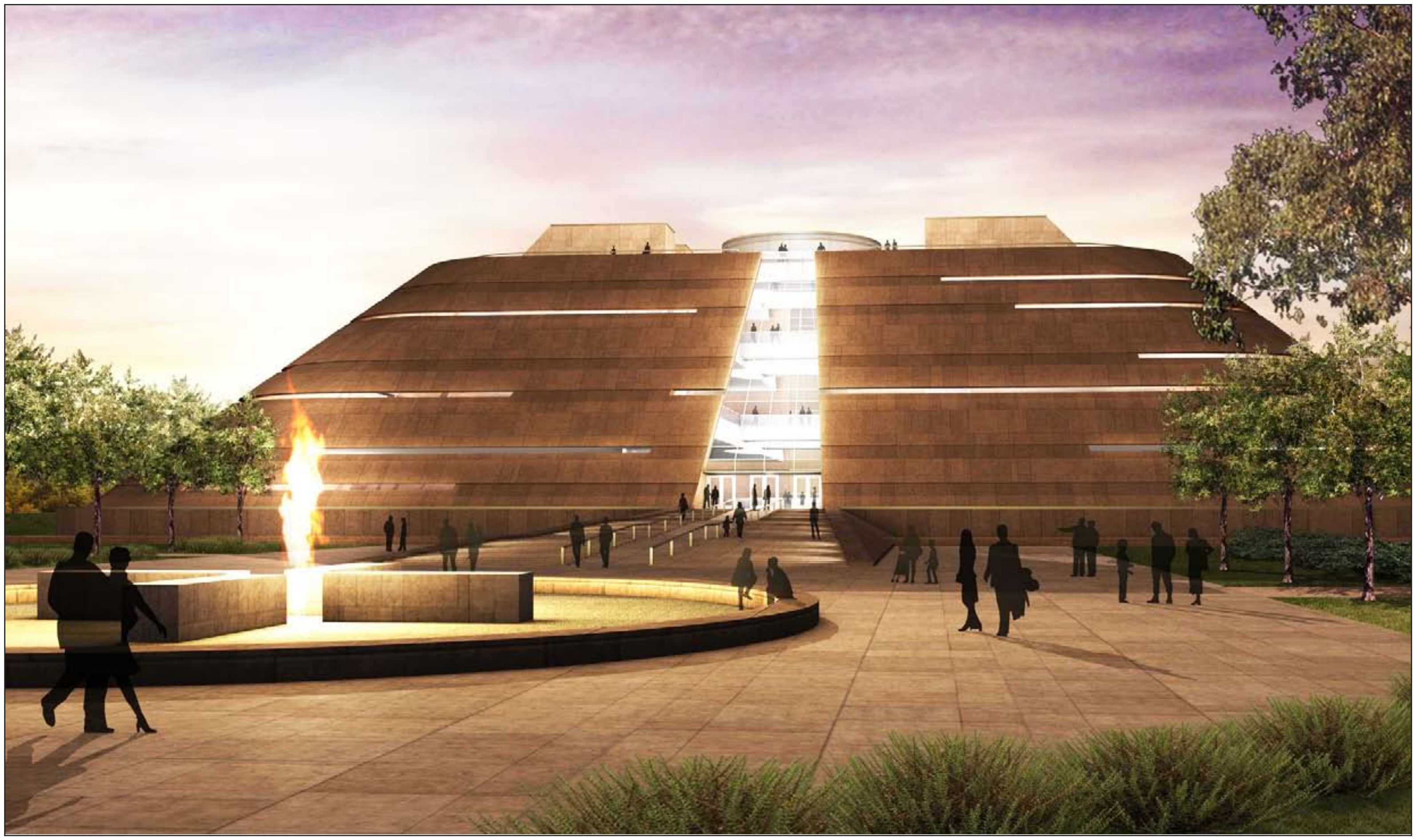
Museum to feature Muscogee mound design

Betty Gerber, Ed.D.,
Museum Oversight Committee



Sketch courtesy/*MNM&CC*

Pictured above is the project sketch for the Muscogee Nation Museum, Cultural Center and Archives, which will be built in traditional Muscogean mound shape. The mound was significant to Muscogee beliefs and was used in ceremonies and customs.

OKMULGEE — While museum planning meetings are heavily laden with numbers and technical jargon, the underlying drive is human and emotional — dedication and passion for our history and culture.

The Muscogee Nation Museum, Cultural Center, and Archives Development Oversight Committee (hereafter shortened to "the museum committee") is intent on delivering plans for a first class, state of the art museum to the people of the Muscogee Nation.

The primary goal of the museum will be to educate visitors of all ages, from Muscogee citizens to international visitors. Every exhibit, every cultural event, every text panel… even the building itself will be geared towards that end.

In fact, it was determined very early in the planning process that the museum would be built in the shape of a mound. The Mississippian Mound Builder culture that extended into the southeastern United States is our heritage. The mound was basic to Muscogee beliefs, ceremonies, and customs.

To ensure that the museum begins educating visitors even as soon as they arrive on the grounds, the committee has spent time educating the architects concerning Muscogee history and culture so that the building will be infused with it.

Amos McNac and Mike Berryhill are members of the museum committee and provide special cultural guidance, as do others. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and Raymond Meeley, Mekko of Apehkv (Arbeka) Ceremonial Ground, also contribute to making the museum building and grounds "speak" our history as have other present and past committee members and participants.

> *"The primary goal of the museum will be to educate visitors of all ages, from Muscogee citizens to international visitors. Every exhibit, every cultural event, every text panel… even the building itself will be geared towards that end."*
> — Dr. Betty Gerber, Muscogee Nation Museum & Cultural Center Oversight Committee

The result is a building design that will acknowledge many elements of our culture, for example the importance of the sun, spring and autumnal equinoxes, the colors of the first fires given to us by the Creator, motifs such as the four directions, the ceremonial fire, and the woodland setting in which the Mvskoke lived.

Extending the museum into the outdoors, a traditional Muscogee village on the building grounds with flowing water will teach visitors about daily lifestyle.

Plans for the museum have been based upon the desire to present and preserve our culture – and both culture and history provide a common ground.

In the beginning, even before the committee was formed, NCA 07-101 defined the need for a repository of art, artifacts, archives, knowledge and memorabilia and the need to preserve them for future generations.

The museum committee has studied how best to achieve all project goals by visiting established and well respected museums such as the National Museum of the American Indian (a Smithsonian affiliate), Gilcrease Museum, Philbrook, the Chickasaw Cultural Center, the Citizen Potawatomi Cultural Heritage Center, the Oklahoma History Center, the Minnesota History Center, Sam Noble Museum, and others.

Outreach to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens is a primary goal. The Museum seeks to develop and implement consistent strategies to build the collections and educational programs holistically in order to provide sufficient resources to address subject and community concerns and better represent the fullness of Muscogee (Creek) experiences over time.

A research library is also planned which will not only contain books for the beginner (school age), but also a proper archival storage space for preserving important tribal documents, photographs, recordings, and letters.

SEE MUSEUM - B5

Museum

Continued from B4

In conjunction with community outreach and input, collections management and artifact preservation procedures will be developed and implemented according to national museum best practice standards and ethical practices in order to ensure the best possible continual protection of the collections for the Muscogee community.

Additionally, for library and archive collections, the Museum plans to consult the American Library Association, the Society for American Archivists, and the American Indian Library Association for preservation strategies and professional ethical codes.

A "community room" is planned that will offer both inside and outside space for special occasions and activities. Other areas will accommodate both small and even very large groups for special cultural events, banquets, special viewings of films, or other gatherings.

It is expected that the museum will host tour groups from schools throughout the Muscogee Nation, and fully equipped classrooms and art rooms to serve them are also being planned.

Another feature will be studio areas for museum staff to record interviews of elders, traditional experts, and other Muscogee citizens.

Another identified goal of the museum project is outreach to universities in order to promote scholarly research by, about, and for Muscogee people.

Artifact storage will be state of the art, allowing for best museum practices as prescribed by the American Association of Museums (AAM). The committee hopes to achieve accreditation with the AAM, and the building plans will help achieve accreditation.

Through the accreditation process, the museum will be able to exhibit Muscogee (Creek) artifacts on loan from major museums within the state as well as from national museums. A building that meets standards of AAM accreditation will aid in that process.

HGA Architects and Engineers of Minneapolis are partnering with EWC1 Architects of Tulsa to combine experience at building large scale museums with regional experience. Both firms are client-oriented and have worked well with committee members to explain special needs of the project and to offer solutions to any challenges.

Storm water drainage at first appeared to be a liability for the chosen site, but HGA architects and engineers are collaborating with MCN's Tribal Construction department and the city of Okmulgee to turn the water into an asset for the historical accuracy of the village. (The Muscogee always lived adjacent to flowing water.) Raising the level of the building site and modifying the creek bed will keep the building safe from storm water.

The Museum Committee is now in phase two (of three phases) of schematic design for the museum building and grounds. The schematic design includes allocations of square footage, arrangement of rooms, dimensions of areas such as lobbies and galleries plus the appearance of the building.

The committee most recently met with architects on March 17-18, and they listened to presentations by architects plus a mechanical engineer, an electrical engineer, and a landscape engineer. A large part of the presentation was concerning sustainability of the design.

NCA 09-040 is legislation which defined the need for tribal construction projects to use construction practices that support our people's traditional respect for the natural environment. To that end, a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified building plan is in place.

Once the schematic design is complete, which may happen this summer, architects will spend the following five or six months developing construction documents to complete the design phase. Following the design process, bids can be sought for construction. The construction phase will require at least two years.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has the unique distinction among tribal museums and cultural centers of having two staff members in residence and on active staff from their respective tribe who have extensive training and professional job experience in museums at the national level. Museum staff members John Beaver, Museum Director and Curator, and Assistant Director Justin Giles are both Muscogee (Creek) citizens, and both worked at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) in Washington, D.C. for nearly ten years each.

Both were on staff in separate departments in the years leading up to and following the opening of the NMAI and were involved in projects contributing to the opening of the museum. Both Mr. Beaver and Mr. Giles are also intern alumni of Smithsonian/NMAI internship programs.

At the NMAI, Mr. Beaver held the position of Cultural Protocols Program Specialist in the Repatriation Department where he worked to successfully secure the repatriation, or return, of human remains and ceremonial and burial objects to Native communities. He was involved in the AAM Accreditation process for the NMAI as a member of the Repatriation Department's review team. He also served as a voting member of the NMAI Curatorial Council/Curation and Collections Review Committee and the NMAI Sensitive Care Collections Committee.

Before joining the NMAI, he worked in the Anthropology Collections Department at the Field Museum in Chicago, Illinois where, in addition to collections care, he researched and wrote reports for Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) claims.

In the fields of anthropology and museums, he has been awarded research fellowships from the National Science Foundation, Ford Foundation, University of Illinois-Chicago, and the American Express/Aspen Institute Program on Philanthropy and Social Innovation.

He is a member of the American Association of Museums, Oklahoma Museums Association, and the Society for American Archaeology where he currently sits as a member of the Committee on Museums, Collections, and Curation. He is a past member of the editorial board for the peer-reviewed journal Heritage Management published by Left Coast Press and has served as a reviewer on the NAGPRA Grant Review Committee.

Mr. Beaver holds a BA in anthropology from the University of Oklahoma, a MA degree in anthropology and is in the process of completing his Ph.D. in that field at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Mr. Giles also brings experience to the museum project. While at the NMAI, he was a Curatorial Assistant for the Our Lives permanent exhibit. He was also a Project Assistant in the Native Nations Procession during the Grand Opening.

He was instrumental in developing the Group Reservations Policies and Procedures for the Education Department at the NMAI.

He was also involved in the AAM Accreditation process, specifically focusing on how tribal delegates, congressmen, state representatives, ambassadors, international diplomats, and tribal school groups were accommodated while they visited the museums.

He has also had significant work experiences in collections care gained from museum projects involving the NMAI Collections Management Department.

He is a member of the American Association of Museums and the Oklahoma Museum Association. He holds a BA in anthropology from the University of Virginia and is in the process of completing his MA in Museum Studies.

2011 Festival sign-ups now available

Muscogee Nation
Festival
37th annual
2011
Celebrate Life!

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

Sign-ups for both slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball are now available on-line and through the Tourism & Recreation Office.

Commemorative Festival 2011 mugs in four designs are available for purchase for $8 each as well as raffle tickets to win a 2011 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200 Low. Tickets for the motorcycle are available for $5 each or five for $20. The drawing is open to everyone and winner will be announced and awarded on Saturday, June 25, 2011 after 6 p.m. Participants need not be present to win.

Sponsorships are still available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

OBITUARIES

ZELMA QUIGLEY

MEDFORD, Ore., — Zelma Quigley (age 79), a Creek citizen, passed on April 3, 2011 from causes related to lung disease, in Medford, Oregon. Zelma Robison was born in Weleetka, Okla., in 1931 on the Robison allotment, next to the Canadian River in Weleetka. She was one of 10 children born to Josephus C. Robison and Zelma Jane Pack. She was the great-grandaughter of Col. William M. Robison, a member of the House of Warriors and Superintendent of Levering Manual School in Wetumpka in the 1890s, and the great-great granddaughter of Dr. Alexander Robison, a white man, and the government doctor who served during Creek removal in 1832. The Robison family is of the Deer Clan.

During the Great Depression, Josephus Robison moved his family to Central Calif., where, a year later, he died in an automobile accident.

When she was 16, Zelma married Claude J. Robertson, a Cherokee man, in Modesto, Calif. She later moved to Northern California where she worked in the retail services industry until her retirement in 1990.

Zelma enjoyed dancing in her younger years and always loved country music. Her friendships usually lasted for life, and although she hardly ever went to church, she always professed that Jesus was the Christ and Savior.

The Robison siblings were always very close, spending many weekends and holidays together when they were raising their own children. As they entered their older years, the siblings spent more time on telephone calls and writing letters. In recent years, with the invention of the cell phone, Zelma spoke with her brother, Deanie, and sister, Bunny in Alaska almost every day, she loved her cell phone and she kept it in her pocket at all times.

Zelma was a faithful supporter of veterans organizations and was very proud of her brothers, Buddy, Hully, and Pig who all served in the military. Hully Robison, along with 1149 other Americans, was lost off the coast of North Africa on Nov. 23, 1943 when the Germans torpedoed and sunk the HMT Rohna in World War II. The death of Hully was a tragic event for the family and difficult to accept because the family was never notified as to the cause of death until 1996 when the military declassified the event and the United States Army sent an official letter to the family.

Zelma is preceded in death by her father and mother, her brothers, Willis, Josephus (Buddy), Hildred (pig), Anthony (Tony), Eddie (Hully), sisters, Cherokee Lucille Long, Arthemus Langston, her sons Ronald J. Robertson, Michael R. Robertson, and grandson Jason Ortiz Robertson.

Zelma is survived by her daughters, Linda Norbury, Crescent City, Calif., and Claudette Robertson of Oklahoma City; her grandchildren, Sean Norbury, Gabriel Norbury, James Moore, Abe Robertson, Michelle Robertson, and Neiko Robertson of northern Calif., John Moore of Oklahoma City; great-grandchildren, Thomas, Brittney, Mariah, Jeremiah, Tristyn, Jadon, Justus, Jasmine and Justin. The remaining Robison siblings are Raydean (Deanie) Robison and Bernice (Bunny) Kirkland ofAnchorage, Alaska.

The family would like to thank all of the many friends who loved and prayed for Zelma, and to the Hiouchi Church in Del Norte County, Calif., for their support and for preparing the memorial reception. The family also thanks Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the burial support.

THANK YOU

MCNAC FAMILY

OKLAHOMA CITY — C.W. "Lonnie" Jimboy, 68, of Oklahoma City, died Tuesday morning, April 18, 2011, at Grace Living Center in OKC.

He was born July 8, 1942, at Tahlequah, Oklahoma, to Bennie and Bessie Anderson Jimboy. He was a proud member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and had retired from Trans World Airlines where he worked as a freight handler. Survivors include a son, Lonnie Jr., and wife Linda and two grandchildren, Joe and Marisa Jimboy; two brothers, Joseph and Ruben Jimboy; and a sister, Augustine McNac.

Visitation took place in Oklahoma City Thursday, April 21, 2011, at OK Cremation & Mortuary Service. Visitation in Okemah, Okla., took place before the funeral at 2 p.m., at the Creek Chapel just south of Okemah. Burial was held at the Creek Chapel Cemetery, under the direction of OK Cremation & Mortuary.

We would like to express our thank you to everyone for their prayers, sympathy and kindness during the loss of our loved one.

Special thank you to Creek Nation Construction Services, Creek Chapel Church and Pastor Ed. Jimboy.

Thank you to Lou Fixico and Marie Faubion, also the ladies of the church for preparation of the wonderful meal.

Special thank you to Rev. Sidney Lee and Rev. Andrew Johnson for their support during the services. God bless each one.

- Family of Lonnie Jimboy Sr.

HARJO FAMILY

TULSA — Thank you to all those who gave flowers, donations and their support during this difficult time. The presence of friends and family who attended the service was appreciated.

Harjo leaves behind a wife, Katie (Mae) Harjo, children Christopher Harjo, Jr., and Selena M. Harjo, as well as two nieces, Elmira Peterson Harjo, Marceline Leach and their children. God bless everyone.

- Katie Harjo and family

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BIRTHDAYS

JALEN TY "CUTKE' JACOBS

OKEMAH — Jalen Ty "Cutke" Jacobs celebrated his eighth birthday April 9, 2011.

Jalen is the son of Monica and B.J. Jacobs. He has one sister, Emily Jacobs. His grandparents are Daria and Johnie Hicks. Attending the party were aunts, Tina and Jennifer, best friends, Devan Bruner and Cheparney Hicks, relatives and friends.

JILLIAN ROSE BUSTAMANTE RATKA

TEMPLE, Texas — Jillian Rose Bustamante Ratka celebrated her birthday March 11, 2011 with a 'Max and Ruby' themed-party.

Parents are Jason M., and Jennifer B. Ratka. Maternal grandparents are Gustavo M., and Rose B. Bustamante and Edward and Virginia Ratka. Maternal great grandparents are Sam and Fannie M. Buckley; Jose and Josefina Bustamante and the Late Edward and Mary Ratka; George and Helen Zink.

She is of the Deer Clan and Muskogee Tribal Town.

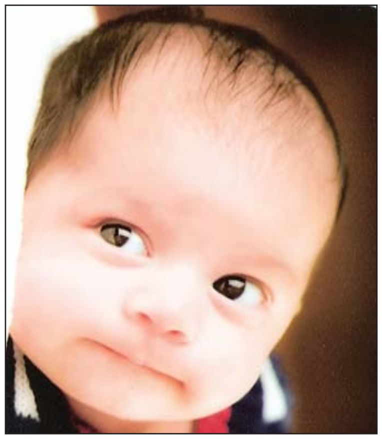
PAULA WILLITS

TULSA — On April 30, 2011, Paula Willits celebrated her 21st birthday with family and friends at the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center.

The theme was polka dots and everyone attending was required to wear polka dots. A dinner was served, games were played and there was much laughter and fun. She is already looking forward to her 22nd birthday.

BIRTH

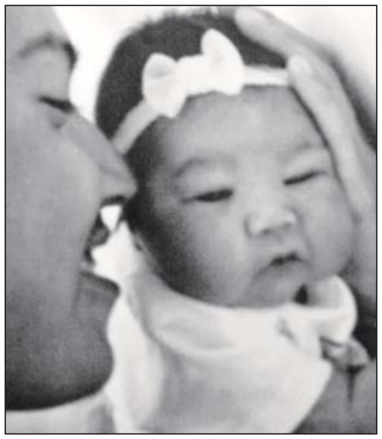
BRENDAN MICHAEL HARDING



TULSA — Brendan Michael Harding was born Jan. 31, 2011 at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa. He weighed 5 lbs. 6oz., and was 18 1/4 inches.

Parents are Kip and Meske Harding. Maternal grandparents are Debi Johnson and Doug Juneau. Paternal grandparents are Brenda Mayo and the late Keith Harding. Maternal great grandparents are Betty Neal and the late Johnson Tarpalechee; Royce Juneau and the late Chiquita McNac. Paternal great grandparents are Eloise and the late Wesley Mayo; Teresa and the late Jerry Harding.

JAYLEIGH FUS-HOLVTOCE HARJO



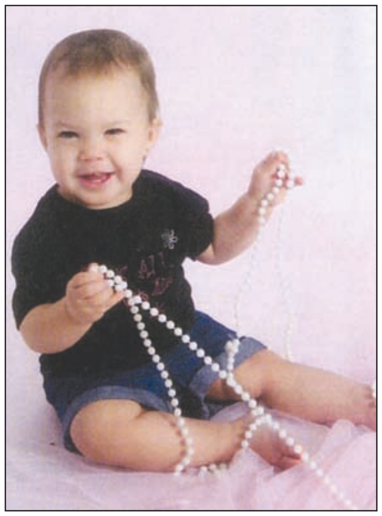
TULSA — Jayleigh Fus-Holvtoce Harjo was born March 7, 2011 at the Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Health Center in Tulsa. She weighed 7 lbs., 13 oz., and was 19 inches in length.

Parents are Vinnie Harjo and Jamie Rolland. Maternal grandparents are Joanna Lowe and James M. Rolland. Paternal grandparents are Corrine and Woodrow Harjo. Maternal great grandparents are the late Nancy Watashe Rolland and Albert Rolland; the Late Mary Louise "Roxy" Bible and Andrew Lowe, Sr. Paternal great grandparents are the Late Nancy Gouge Harjo and Jack Harjo; the late Colleene Bruner and Jimmy Bruner, Sr.

She is of the Bird Clan, Hillubee Ceremonial Ground and Broken Arrow United Methodist Church.

ACCOMPLISHMENT

GABRIELLE BEVENUE



MORRIS — Gabrielle "Gabby" Bevenue was the winner of the Spring Fling 2011 Cutest Baby contest held Saturday, April 9, 2011.

Bevenue is the daughter of Andrew and Carol Bevenue. Her grandparents are George and Tammy Johnson and Stoney and Yvonne McIntosh.

Great grandparents are the late Jack and Gayle Bevenue and the late Samuel Factor and Joanne Factor.

Bevenue is of the Bird Clan.

Traditional Funeral Package
$4,400.00
We gladly accept your tribal burial benefits

Jimmy Spurlock, Wesley VanMeter, and Robert Owens

Native American Funeral Director & visitation attendant on staff

"Caring When It Counts"

IFS INTEGRITY FUNERAL SERVICE

410 East Trudgeon Henryetta
652-6600

Native American Package details on our website at
www.integrityfuneralservice.com

Muscogee Nation Festival

37th annual 2011

Celebrate Life!

Live Entertainment

JO DEE MESSINA | 6.24.11

The PLATEROS | 6.25.11

DENNIS DeYOUNG: | 6.25.11
the MUSIC of STYX

June 3

Scholarship Pageant

June 17-19

Basketball 3 on 3 Adult
Slow Pitch Softball

June 23

Stomp Dance 7:30 PM

June 24-26

- 5K Run/Walk
- INFR Tour Rodeo
- Arts & Crafts
- Basketball 3 on 3 Youth
- Child Safety Seat Check
- Children's Fun Fair
- Creek Hymn/Gospel Singing
- Farmers' Market
- Fast Pitch Softball
- Golf
- Horseshoes
- Junior Olympics
- Live Entertainment
- Living Legends
- Parade
- Senior Citizens' Activities
- Traditional Games
- Volleyball

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

May 15, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 9

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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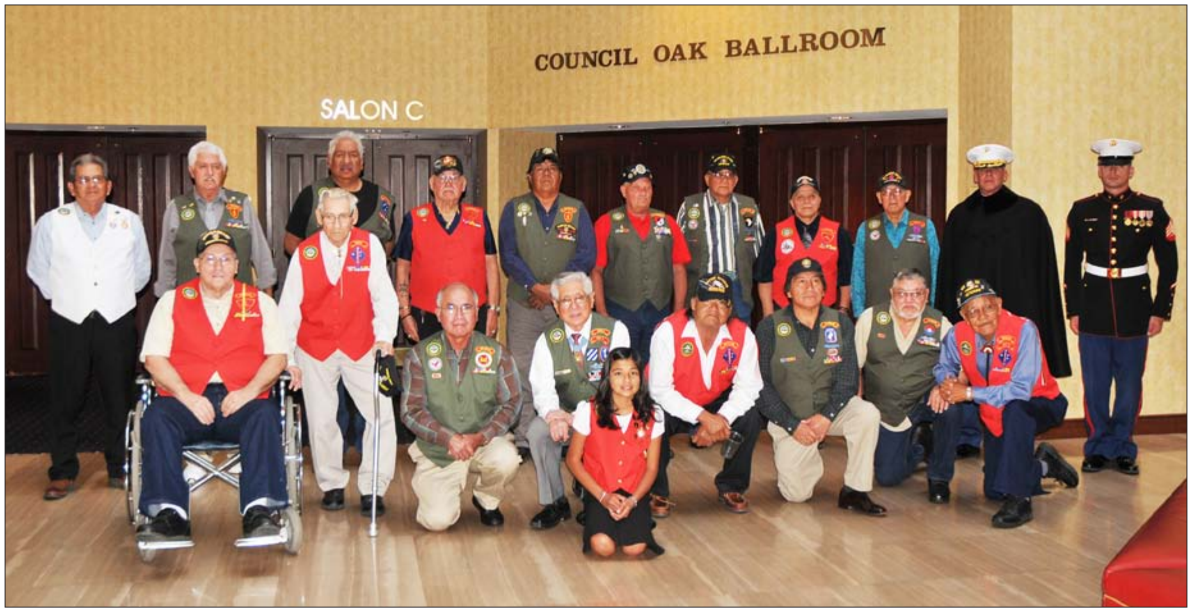
Hearts of purple

• VASO Purple Heart recipients honored



MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Purple Heart recipients with Principal Chief A.D. Ellis (far left), Hiroshi H. Miyamura (center), E'tya Quiett (center front) at the Purple Heart Recipient Dinner honoring their service Friday, May 6, 2011.

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

TULSA — According to Director of Veteran Affairs Services Office, Ken Davis, a majority of Mvskoke veterans are combat soldiers.

"I would say 60 percent are front-line combat veterans," Davis stated.

Consequently, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boasts 59 identified and verified Purple Heart recipients, recently recognized for their service at a dinner held at the Tulsa Marriot Southern Hills on Friday, May 6, 2011.

"From what we know so far, we have 26 living Purple Heart recipients," Davis stated.

Though not all of the recipients were able to attend, 19 were honored for their service with dinner, dessert and a presentation by Purple Heart and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi H. Miyamura.

SEE PURPLE - A4

Miss Muscogee Nation Pageant June 3

Media Release
MCN Pageant Committee

OKMULGEE — The next Miss Muscogee Nation will be crowned Friday, June 3, 2011 at the Alice Ghostly Auditorium at Henryetta High School.

The Miss Muscogee Nation Pageant will begin at 7 p.m., and will feature two divisions: Miss Muscogee and Jr. Miss Muscogee.

Contestants will showcase a cultural talent and will be judged on poise/personality, traditional dress, talent, speech, personal interview, essay and written test.

The crowned Miss will receive $4,000 in prize and scholarship money and the crowned Junior Miss will receive $1,000 in scholarship money.

For more information on the Miss Muscogee Nation Pageant, please contact Pageant Coordinator Virginia Thomas at (918) 732-7839.

June 1 scholarship deadline approaching

Media Release
MCN Higher Education Dept.

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department is currently accepting new applications for the Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 academic year through June 1.

The Higher Ed BIA Grant (need based) and Tribal Grant (non-need based) applications are available in the MCN Higher Education Office and on the official Web site under May Bulletins at: http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/

Send complete applications to Creek Nation Higher Education Department, P O Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

For more information, call (918) 732-7688 or 7689 or contact cdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or jothill@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

A2 EXECUTIVE

Letters to the Editor

A3 LEGAL

Letter from the Editor

A4 VETERANS

VASO Purple Heart Dinner

A5 VETERANS

VASO in pursuit of MCN Purple Heart recipients

A7 ENTERTAINMENT

Messina and DeYoung to headline Muscogee Festival

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Absentee ballot request forms due Aug. 25

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released information for the upcoming 2011 elections. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don't receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685.

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

Candidate eligibility for Principal Chief and Second Chief:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 30 years old upon filing
- Legal resident within jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing
- Filing fees for Principal Chief are $550 and $425 for Second Chief - cashier's check or money order only

Candidate eligibility for National Council Representative:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 18 years and older
- Must be a legal resident of his/her district one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing

Article VI Section 2(b), when the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

When filing please have the following documents:

- Tribal enrollment card
- MCN voter card
- Cashier's check or money order for $200 filing fee

Verification of residence; candidates will need two (2) of the following:

- Income tax return for the preceding year
- Homestead exemption or copy of property tax
- Copy of house deed or statement from Creek Housing Authority containing dates of residency
- If renting; a notarized statement form the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord's address and phone number
- Utility bill in candidate's name
- Driver's License (with current address)

(Address must be the same on all documents)

Letters to the Editor

Citizen remarks on wild onion season

OKMULGEE — During all the years I lived in Los Angeles, one of the things I missed most was the wild onion dinners. Last year and this year I've tried to make up for it.

This year, as a guest of the Senior Citizen's Gift Shop, I was able to attend four wild onion dinners. They were: Salt Creek in Holdenville, Big Cussetah in Morris, Concharty in Okmulgee and Springfield in Okemah. Each and every church served extraordinary dinners. If I were grading these dinners, I would have to give four stars to Salt Creek, Big Cussetah and Concharty, but Springfield stood out and I would have to give them five stars. Why Springfield you might ask. Besides serving great food, Springfield did a little extra: like having a parking attendant to tell you where to park your car, extra chairs set out so you could sit while waiting your turn to go in and eat and volunteers wearing plastic gloves while serving.

Eight dollars was the going rate for the dinners with the exception of Salt Creek who charged ten dollars. I would've liked to have made more dinners but many churches scheduled their dinners on the same day. Maybe for next year, the churches could get together and work out a schedule so that those of us who love wild onion dinners could attend more.

I don't know about anybody else, but whenever I smell those wild onions cooking, it brings back memories of when my mom would go out and gather a mess for supper. Looking forward to the 2012 wild onion dinners. Let's see... this is May, so that means, I have....

- Bob Hicks

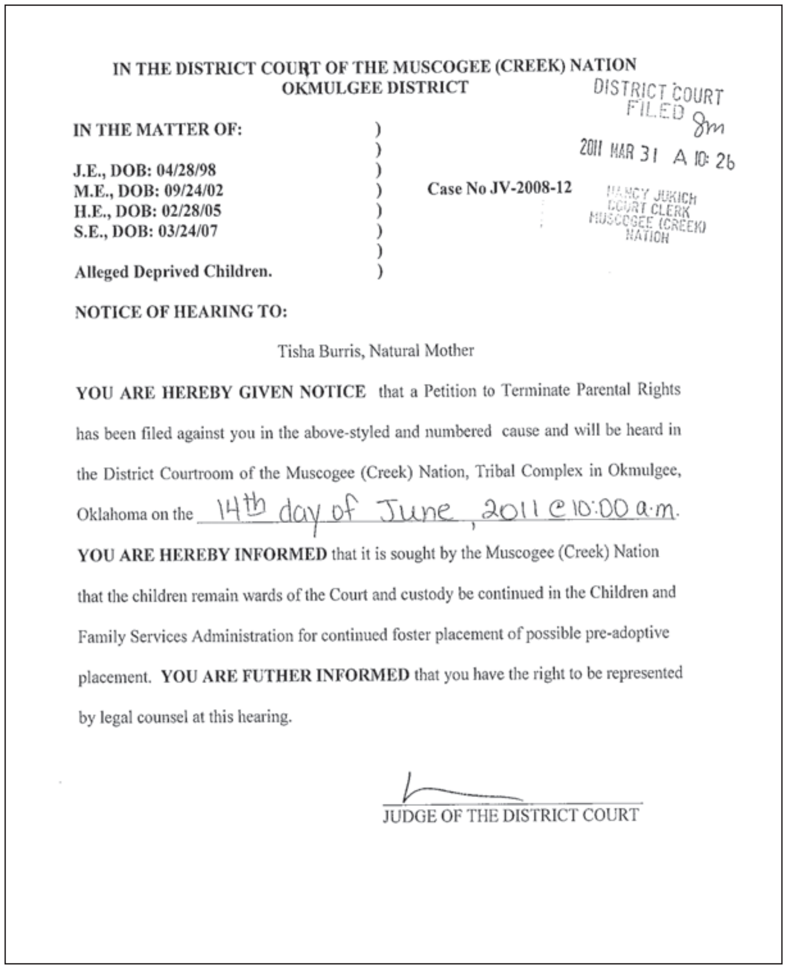
Citizen compliments Arbor Care Services

STIDHAM — On April 13-14, 2011, the crew of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Arbor Care Service, which consists of Rocky Lee, Dustin Cloud, Oscar Hicks and James Hicks, came to my house in Stidham, Okla.

They cut down two large cottonwood trees, about 60' tall. One was right at the back of my house and was dead and in danger of falling on the house. The other was at the front of the house, was dying and a north wind could have destroyed a couple of houses.

They were the most professional men at their job attitude. Their equipment was the best and they certainly took care of it. I wondered how they would get that tree down at the back without it falling on the house. I can assure you they know how to do their job. I appreciate them and I am glad we have men like them. They personally were nice, easy-going and very professional at their work. Sincere mvto,

- Bill Nifton



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED *Sm*
2011 MAR 31 A 10: 26
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
J.E., DOB: 04/28/98)
M.E., DOB: 09/24/02) **Case No JV-2008-12**
H.E., DOB: 02/28/05)
S.E., DOB: 03/24/07)
)
Alleged Deprived Children.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tisha Burris, Natural Mother

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 14th day of June, 2011 @ 10:00 a.m. **YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED** that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Muscogee (Creek) Nation)
Plaintiff,)
v.) **Case No. CV 2011-**
)
Seven Hundred Thirteen Dollars and no/100)
)
Defendant.)

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Jason Kyle Cambell, 350 Spring Creek Pryor, OK 74361; and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

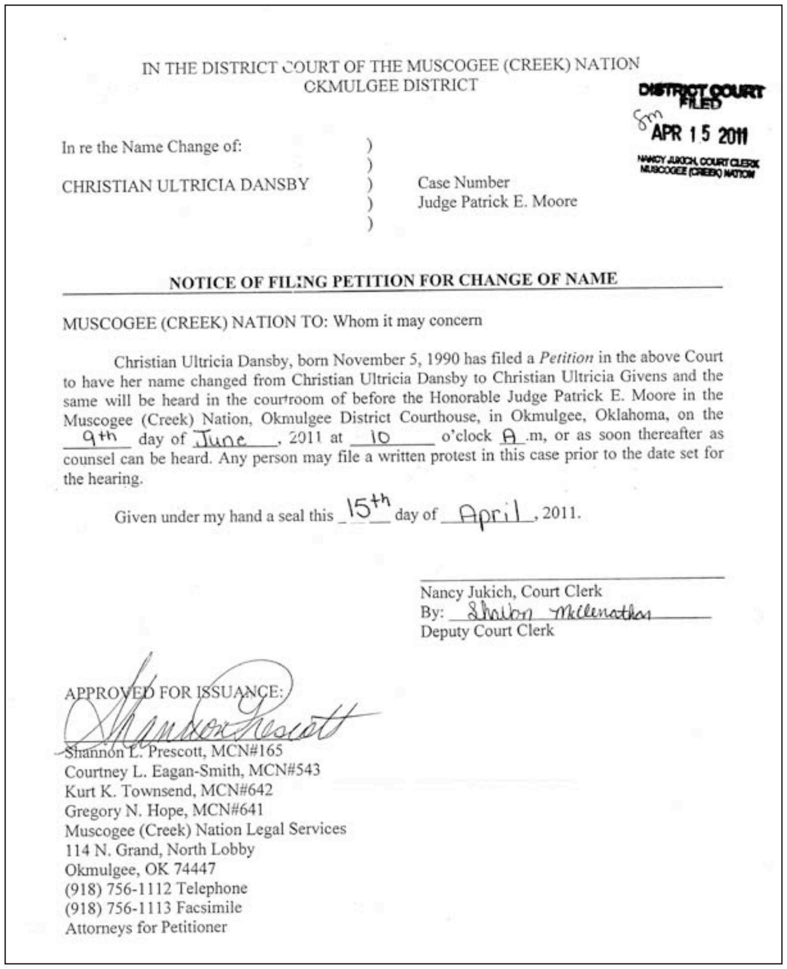
You are hereby notified that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 21 §,11-106, *et seq*.

Said property was seized on or about the 23rd day of January, 2011, from said Jason Kyle Cambell and forfeiture is sought for the reason that said defendant had money in his vehicle in close proximity to illegal drugs;

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property within forty-five days of notice after which time the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will move the Court for an Order of Forfeiture for said property.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brett E. Gray, Prosecutor
Muscogee Creek Nation
Department of Justice
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 295-9720



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
Sm APR 15 2011
NANCY JUKICH, COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the Name Change of:)
)
CHRISTIAN ULTRICIA DANSBY) Case Number
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

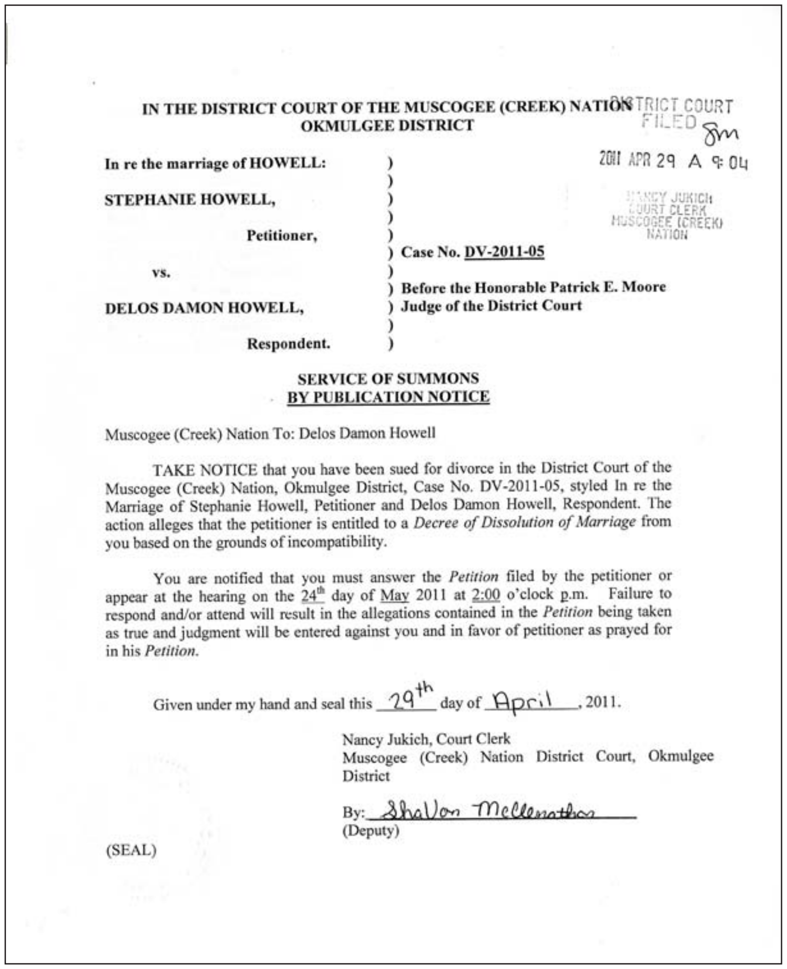
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Christian Ultricia Dansby, born November 5, 1990 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed from Christian Ultricia Dansby to Christian Ultricia Givens and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 9th day of June, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 15th day of April, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: ShaVon Mcllenathan
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:
Shannon Prescott
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED *Sm*
2011 APR 29 A 9: 04
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the marriage of HOWELL:)
)
STEPHANIE HOWELL,)
)
Petitioner,)
) **Case No. DV-2011-05**
vs.)
) **Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore**
DELOS DAMON HOWELL,) **Judge of the District Court**
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Delos Damon Howell

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2011-05, styled In re the Marriage of Stephanie Howell, Petitioner and Delos Damon Howell, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 24th day of May 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 29th day of April, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: ShaVon Mcllenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko!

May is almost gone and the 37th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be here in another month, so be sure to check the Web site for updates and deadlines!

The Festival Preview Edition will be out the first week in June and there will be no mid-month editions for June and July, which will feature results and photos.

This edition has quite a few pages dedicated to our Mvskoke veterans, a group for which I have the utmost respect and admiration.

I was honored to attend the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Purple Heart Recipient Dinner and photograph a few of my heros, our Mvskoke veterans. These men are truly treasures of this nation and I dare say there is not another tribal veteran affairs division that is as passionate about helping these men and women as our own Veteran Affairs Services Office (VASO).

The key to any successful event is attention to detail and VASO staff knocked it out of the park with everything from the carefully-crafted invitations and individualized name plates to the dinner itself (lobster and steak- how could they go wrong?).

I was blown away by the recanting of Hiroshi Miyamura's experience as a POW over 60 years ago. His experience, like many of our Mvskoke veterans is certainly worth remembering and honoring.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Purple

Continued from A1

During dinner, Davis tested attendees' knowledge of military, U.S., and tribal history.

"The fun part was having them stand up and try to answer the questions . . . I haven't seen those Cokes and cigarettes [the price for getting a question wrong] yet but I am collecting," Davis said.

Though commentary from the veterans themselves was minimal, the atmosphere emanated reverence, amusement and pride.

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Roger Barnett and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis also addressed those recipients and their guests.

"It's always a privilege to share our culture and our traditions of this nation with other nations," Barnett stated.

Ellis spoke of a recent flight on a military plane to visit Muscogee (Creek) servicemen stationed in Camp Shelby, Miss.

"I went out to visit our young Creek soldiers… They were all in full battle gear, carrying machine guns," he said.

While there, Capt. Robert B. Lusty, from Holdenville, Okla., told Ellis that leaving four kids and a wife at home is tough. His oldest son, who is seven years old, understands his father's responsibilities but it is still a struggle for the family.

"He understands what I'm doing now and it hurts him to see me leave," Lusty said.

"A lot of young Creek men are leaving families at home and leaving for active duty. They're well trained, just like you guys [the veterans in attendance] were back in the Korean and Vietnam wars and they're going over there to do the same thing, to defend this country and defend our way of life. So they're still at it and some day, we'll honor them the way Maj. Davis is honoring them tonight. Soldiers have always been my heroes and still are," Ellis said.

The oldest living MCN Purple Heart recipient is 90 years old and served in World War II.

The youngest living MCN Purple Heart recipient is 31 and served in Iraq.

"I really appreciate the tribe allowing us to do this for these veterans . . . I'm glad we did this for our Purple Heart recipients. Heaven knows they deserve it after all they've done for our tribe and our country," Davis stated.

Guest of honor for the event, Miyamura, recalled the 27 long months spent as a prisoner during the Korean War more than 60 years ago.

DAUGHTER OF
THE MARINES

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above is are Maj. Ken Davis, Director of Veteran Affairs Services Office and honorary 'Daughter of the Marines' E'Tya Quiett.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured left to right are MCN Purple Heart veteran Butch LaSarge, Hiroshi Miyamura and wife, Terry, at the VASO Purple Heart Recipient Dinner.

According to Miyamura, although it is not as well-know as other wars, the loss of life was no less prevalent. "The Korean War is known as the 'Forgotten War" but we suffered heavy casualties," he said.

At the time of Miyamura's arrival in North Korea, in Nov. 1950, he described the weather as one of the hardest-fought enemies of his unit.

"North Korea happened to be suffering the worst winter in their recorded history, with average temperatures falling between 40-50 degrees below zero," he said.

In addition to the bitter temperatures, Miyamura's unit was outfitted only with summer gear.

"Here we were, dressed for summer duty. We had no snow or cold weather gear at all. We were issued snow packs with a felt liner," he remembers.

Because of the conditions, many of the men suffered frostbite, especially after long marches.

Wounded and exhausted to the point of collapse, Miyamura was taken as a prisoner-of-war and forced to march over a month to a camp by his captors. The POWs were only given a single sack of powdery rations to sustain them during that time.

Miyamura was eventually awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower for his service to his unit and the country.

"I know that every Medal of Honor recipient who also wears the Purple Heart is courageous, and a man who has shed his blood for this country and so many of them have made the supreme sacrifice," Miyamura stated.

VASO is still in search of other Mvskoke Purple Heart recipients across the country and that any information regarding their whereabouts and documentation is appreciated.

"Our Purple Heart recipients are typical of Muscogee veterans – brave, quiet and extremely representative of our tribe. Our Mvskoke citizens should feel safe because these are the kind of men defending them," Davis said.

For more information on Mvskoke Purple Heart recipients, contact VASO at (918) 732-7739.

VASO in pursuit of MCN Purple Heart recipients

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — British Prime Minister Winston Churchill once said, “Without courage, all virtues lose their meaning.”

Without courage and the men and women who have and continue to protect freedom, life in America would undoubtedly be much different.

Without courage, 59 Mvskoke veterans would not have received one of the highest military honors attainable, the Purple Heart.

As part of daily operations at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans’ Affairs Services Office (VASO), Director Ken Davis and Technical Media Specialist Shawn Taryole have begun the process of developing a database of information for all Mvskoke veterans, including the documentation of Purple Heart recipients.

According to Davis, although there are only 71,109 enrolled Muscogee (Creek) citizens, there are approximately 1,000 documented veterans that have been contacted by VASO. Davis estimates there are roughly 1,400 total, a number, which he says, reflects the relatively large percentage of men and women serving their country and tribe.

“Our tribe has a long, honorable and courageous history of combat service. The amount of Purple Hearts our tribe has earned since World War I is absolutely amazing. I think it’s typical of our Mvskoke citizens who join the military. The patriotism is strong and deep,” Davis stated.

Davis attributes a portion of this patriotism to a connection with the land.

“ . . .This is actually our soil, it is our dirt, it is our land. We have no place else to go. This is it. That’s what I think this building does, is capture the military history of our tribe since World War I,” Davis said.

VASO has become a place for veterans young and old to gather, share stories and enjoy the presence of others who have dedicated themselves to service. Veterans are recognized on the walls of the Center Court where visitors can examine the names, birthdays, Killed-In-Action (KIA), Died-Of-Wounds-In-Action (DOWIA) and Wounded-In-Action (WIA) dates on display at ‘Pentagon West,’ as it is also referred to.

“We wanted our Center Court to be a place to honor our KIAs, DOWIAs and WIA Purple Heart recipients for all wars since World War I . . . It’s amazing to hear the stories of our men who’ve been wounded and killed-in-action,” Davis said.

“We’re always looking for family members who may have a relative wounded- or killed-in-action whether it be from World War I to the present, we urge them to get in contact with us. It’s an ongoing process,” Taryole stated.

Families are urged to contact VASO with documentation of any veteran honored as a Purple Heart recipient. According to Davis, only an estimated half has been accounted for, to date.

“What we have on the wall represents 108; five KIA from World War I, 26 from World War II, five from Korea, 11 from Vietnam and six DOWIA. We currently have 59 Purple Heart recipients. We anticipate by the time we’re done, we could be plus or minus 100 Purple Heart recipients,” he stated.

ALL WARS
WOUNDED
IN ACTION

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Purple Heart recipients who were wounded-in-action from all U.S. wars. These plaques are on display in the VASO Building located on the MCN Complex in Okmulgee, Okla.

One of the challenges for documenting these honors is time.

“World War I will absolutely be the hardest one because so much time has passed, so much information has been lost, forgotten or stored away. Now, we request the families of the unaccounted step forward and provide us with the information, please,” Davis said.

Davis said in order to document all of the KIA, WIA and DOWIA recipients, family members are asked to contact the department directly and provide information that will be included in an on-site database currently being developed by VASO.

“We plan on building a specific and very detailed database on every one of our veterans. We want to get a history of their experience and in addition, which is just as important, we want to know what tribal town they’re from, their clans and tie that into their military history. Eventually we want to build a kiosk where people can enter a name of a family member and their corresponding information will come up,” Davis stated.

The documentation needed by VASO staff includes discharge papers, WD or DD-214 forms and the citation of the award of the Purple Heart. However, if unable to locate this information, families may request these documents through the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) located in St. Louis, Mo., with assistance from VASO.

“The sacrifices made by these men need to be known . . . Our tribe, collectively, has earned every single medal for valor that the U.S. Military has to offer. Our ancestors fought in Ala., and Ga., and we came out here, fought in Okla., and now we go overseas and fight. They have a record . . .a record of sacrifice, service and bravery. They’re quiet, decent, brave, respectful, admirable men and women, our Mvskoke veterans,” Davis said.

For more information on Muscogee (Creek) Purple Heart recipients, contact VASO staff at (918) 732-7739, (918) 732-7745 or (918) 732-7746.

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

MCN School Clothing Program applications now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, will be accepting applications for school clothing beginning Monday, May 2, 2011. Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of October 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek Citizen students no matter where you live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program consist of:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least 3 years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be 4 years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade. All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.
- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200.00. (Example: If you received $400.00 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350.00, you will be eligible to receive $200.00.) Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.00.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.
- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center.
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center.
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447. Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

Messina and DeYoung to headline 37th annual Muscogee Creek Nation Festival

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — Mark your calendars for the 37th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival. The Festival is host to thousands of spectators and participants throughout the month of June and boasts exciting entertainment and numerous activities for the entire family to enjoy. This year's theme, "Celebrate Life!" encourages us to enjoy every aspect of living.

All events of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival are FREE and open to the public. One event so many call about is the entertainment. This too is a FREE event. The entertainment begins on Friday, June 24 at 9 p.m., with Nashville recording star, Jo Dee Messina. With hits like "Lesson in Leavin," "Because You Love Me," "Downtime," "Bring On The Rain," "That's The Way" and "Bye Bye," Jo Dee earned a well-deserved reputation as an electric live performer, becoming one of the first women of country to mount a major headlining tour.

DENNIS DEYOUNG

The live entertainment continues Saturday at 7 p.m., with the Plateros. For generations since the late 50s, Plateros have been known for singing and being musicians within the Tohajiilee Indian Reservation in the Eastern Agency of the Navajo Nation. The young band's web site declares that their performance is filled with some amazing energy with a mixture of blues, rock, funk and gospel.

Saturday's lineup concludes with a performance by Dennis DeYoung and the Music of Styx.

Styx has sold over 35 million albums worldwide and DeYoung has written eight of their nine top ten singles. Styx was the only band to ever record four consecutive triple platinum albums. For over four decades, DeYoung has been a singer, songwriter, keyboardist and record producer. He wrote and sang several classics including: "Lady", "Come Sail Away", "Best of Times", "Mr. Roboto" and the 1979 People's Choice Award winner, "Babe."

Grab your lawn chair and converge with the masses at the 37th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival!

For a complete listing of times, events and contacts, visit the Festival section of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's official web site at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival is a collaborative effort of the departments and entities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with operations overseen by the Tourism & Recreation Department.

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FEATURES

AICCM hopes to generate millions for OKC

• American Indian Cultural Center & Museum project

AICCM/*Kimberly Rodriguez*

Pictured above are Cesar Godinez, Project Engineer, Centennial Builders, Bryce Johnson, Project Engineer, Centennial Builders, Dan Batchelor, President, The Center for Economic Development Law, Gordon T. Greeby, President of The Greeby Companies, John Weeman, President, Partners in Development, Xavier Neira, Business Development Director, Manhattan Construction Co.

Media Release
American Indian Cultural Center & Museum

OKLAHOMA CITY — Approval by Oklahoma's 53rd legislature of the $40 million dollar financing completion plan for The American Indian Cultural Center and Museum (AICCM) will position Oklahoma to generate $125 million dollars in new commercial development. With a specific Grand Opening date, securing commitments from developers and lenders is attainable.

The AICCM project includes a 125,000 square foot cultural center and museum on a 210-acre site located at the southeast corner of the I-35 and I-40 junction that is currently under construction. It will be an interpretive museum and performance facility celebrating the cultural traditions, arts, language, dance, music, literature and crafts of Oklahoma's American Indian tribes. This site, donated by Oklahoma City, is an ideal location with significant traffic volume and high visibility. The project is adjacent to the emerging retail and entertainment district known as the Bricktown area, and builds on the synergy being created by the City's Metropolitan Area Projects (MAPS) program, which is designed to create new and upgraded sports, recreation, entertainment, cultural and convention facilities in Oklahoma City.

In addition to the cultural center and museum, this project includes supporting commercial development adjacent to the cultural center. This commercial development will highlight the traditions and culture of Native people and will create a unique cultural tourism destination. The commercial development will be promoted through a variety of avenues including cultural tourism packages featuring seminars, lectures, entertainment, dining and cultural events.

According to Gordon T. Greeby, President of The Greeby Companies, "Preliminary commercial development prospects include many of the leading national and regional development firms. There is also substantial interest amongst some of the country's top lenders."

For more information, please contact AICCM at (405) 239-5503.

Graduate announcement submissions due June 3

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The *Muscogee Nation News* will be featuring 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation graduates in an upcoming summer edition.

Graduate submissions should include full name of graduate, photo (will not be returned), school, university or technical institution, parents, ceremonial ground, church, tribal town, clan and any awards/accomplishments.

Information may be submitted through mail, fax or e-mail to Gfife@muscogeenation-nsn.gov (preferred) and must be received no later than Friday, June 3, 2011 by 5 p.m., in the MCN Communications Department.

Please send submissions to:

MCN Communications Dept.
C/O Gary Fife
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

For more information, contact Gary Fife at (918) 732-7697.

OCMA to host MCN Candidate Forum Aug. 13

Media Release
Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Assn.

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association (OCMA) will host a moderated Muscogee (Creek) Nation Candidates Forum on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Glorieta Baptist Church, Gymnasium located at 7308 S. Western, in Oklahoma City, Okla., 73139.

All Muscogee (Creek) Nation candidates running for office have been invited to participate in the forum.

The purpose of this forum is to give candidates an opportunity to address issues vital to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens who reside in Oklahoma City or outside the boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. There will be opportunities for the audience to ask candidates questions during the forum. The goal is to offer voting citizens the opportunity to make an informed election decision.

For more information, please contact Ruby Harjo at (405) 808 - 6387.

B2 CULTURAL

And Still the Waters Run: *The Rock Cairns*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MCN Slow Pitch Softball Tournament deadline June 3, 2011

B4 SPOTLIGHT

Ellis visits Camp Shelby

B7 PEOPLE

Announcement: Cynthia Jessie and Thomas Long

B8 AD

37th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival

And Still the Waters Run: *The Rock Cairns*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — He prospered after the Creek War of 1813/1814. Though on the losing side of the fight, friends and family were generous in assisting him. With land/slaves provided to him, he rebounded quickly to become a wealthy plantation owner and respected horse raiser. He married a Natchez woman and fathered a family of five children.

He understood sudden death/mortality and was haunted by one final wish. It concerned his deceased mother, a Muscogee Creek woman of the Wind Clan. She had bid him choose the Red Sticks, though he knew they could never win. In his dreams, he relived memories of growing up loved in her home and culture.

A small family cemetery had evolved on his brother-in-law's nearby plantation. He had his mother's remains removed from a distant grave and brought there. His wish was to sleep beside her for eternity. When death came early after a cold and strenuous bear hunting exposition, his final wishes were carefully carried out. The graves were marked with lead pipes pressed deep into the Alabama dirt and about a hundred years later, two handsome stone cairns were raised above the graves. Red Eagle (William Weatherford) and his mother Sehoy would not rest forgotten. Today Indian and Anglo children (and adults) come by car and vanloads to leave trinkets and treasures on and around the base of the stoic monoliths.

The site of the greatest victory of the warrior Red Eagle can be found less than a mile away. Historic Fort Mims has been rebuilt, as reported in my MNN article of the same name. Also resting in the memorial cemetery (now a Baldwin County park), are John Weatherford (brother) and Major Weatherford (a young son) of the Eagle.

His widow, Mary Stiggins Weatherford, a Christian, chose to be buried in the small cemetery of the Little River Baptist Church, a few miles away on State Highway 59 near the Baldwin/Monroe County line. Other Stiggins, included her nephew, are there as well.

If you chose to someday visit the site, I would suggest you try to come just after a brief summer storm. If you are lucky enough to find the parking lot empty and rain drops still dripping from the monuments and pine trees planted as a background to the same, you may experienced something which will never leave you. Of course, I speak as a great great great grandson of the noble warrior.

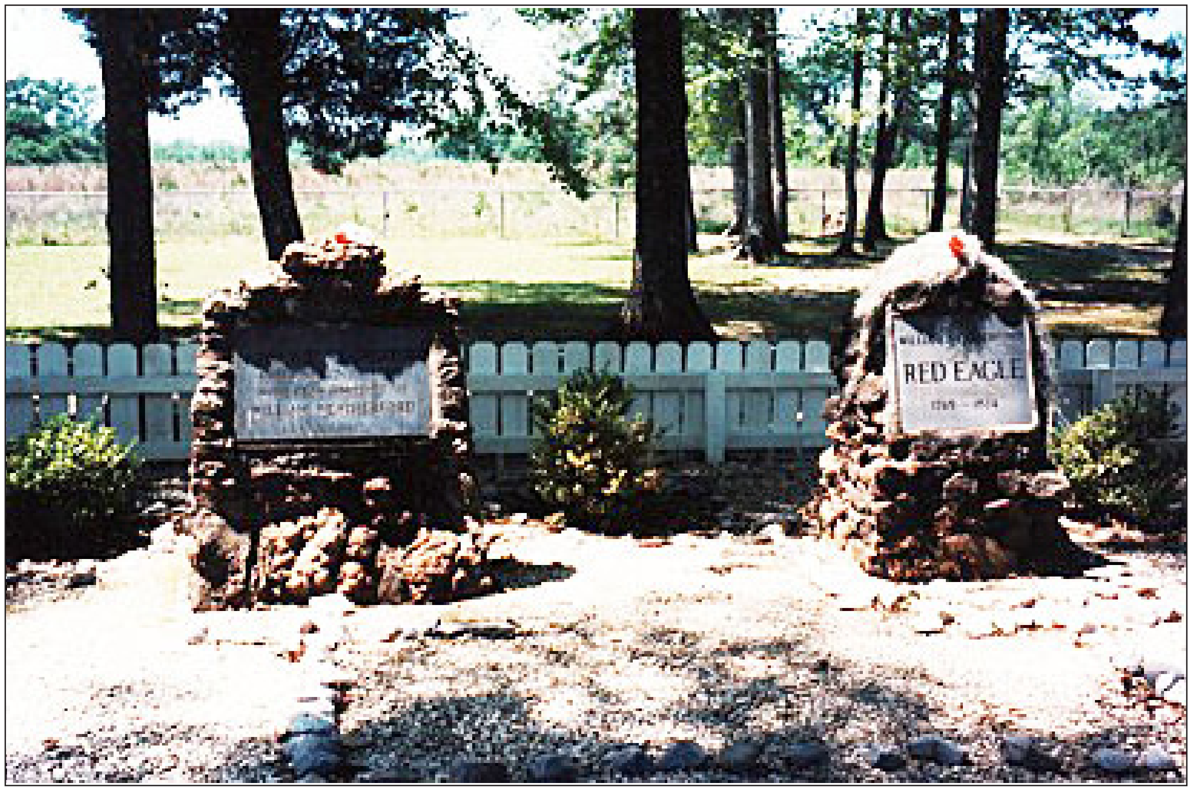
A few miles away in Monroe County, is the actual site of Red Eagle's plantation. It is near an ancient spring, where the one-room "Weatherford School" once stood. Another burial ground there is called the Weatherford Cemetery. The warrior's son of his final marriage, Alexander McGillivray Weatherford, likely rests there, as does a son of his first marriage, Charles Weatherford. His brother-in-law, Alex Sizemore, is also there. Until recent years wooden placards nailed on tree trunks identified some of these sacred dead, but the Poarch Creek tribe has marked all the graves with nice stones and put up a large arrowhead shaped entrance sign, which proclaims the site as an Indian Cemetery. Weatherford's last born child, a daughter, married a doctor and moved to Louisiana. Mary Levitia Weatherford Howell rests in the old Campground Cemetery near Pleasant Hill, La. Two of her children rejoined the Creek Nation decades later, in time for Dawes enrollment.

Perhaps in closing this column, I can offer once again the words that Red Eagle spoke to Andrew Jackson, in surrendering after the Battle of Horseshoe Bend. Jackson had a faithful aide, who left to us all, words which reflect the persona, courage, and absolute fearlessness, of Billy Weatherford.

"I am Weatherford, the chief who commanded at Fort Mims. I have come to ask for peace for myself and for my people. I'm in your power. Do with me as you please. I am a Creek warrior. I have done the white people all the harm I could. I've fought then and fought them bravely. If I had an army I would yet fight and contend to the last, but I have none. My warriors are dead, I can only weep about the misfortunes of my Nation. Our women and children are destitute of provisions. I seek assistance for them. I rely on your generosity. I am finished fighting."

In the meantime, solders without Jackson's tent began yelling for Weatherford's death, as word spread of his presence. Andy Jackson told them to be silent. He said:

"Any man who would kill as brave a man as this would rob the dead."



Photos courtesy/*George Windes*

Pictured above are the graves of Sehoy (III), the mother of Red Eagle on left and the warrior himself on right. Note the park and pine trees planted behind the stone cairns. Below is the country sign directing travelers to Red Eagle's grave.

CHIEF RED EAGLE
GRAVE SITE
BALDWIN COUNTY PARKS SYSTEM
BALDWIN COUNTY
ALABAMA

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Creek Festival Slow Pitch Softball deadline set for June 3, 2011

OKMULGEE — The 37th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Slow-Pitch Softball tournament will be held June 17-19 at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

Friday's game will begin at 6:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday's games will both be at 8 a.m. Entry forms are now available at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Please mail the entry form, roster and $175 entry fee to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism and Recreation, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, Okla., 74447.

Deadline is June 3, 2011. Cashiers check or money orders can be made payable to MCN Festival Committee.

For more information, contact: Mike Sands, at (918) 605-4048 or MCN Tourism and Recreation, at (918) 732-79922. ASA rules apply. Visit www.asasoftball.com

Scott Family Reunion

LONGTOWN — The descendants of Samuel Scott and Nancy McIntosh Scott or Daniel Scott, John Scott, Benny Scott and Hepsey Scott Lewis will host the 21st Annual Scott Family Reunion on June 4, 2011, at the Hwy. 9 Community Center, located in Longtown, Okla., from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Meat and drinks will be supplied, so attendees are asked to bring a covered dish, salad or dessert. If you need more information, call: Helena Girod at (918) 451-1932 or e-mail hgirod@cinemareview.com.

Haikey Chapel UMC to host Indian Taco Sale

TULSA — Haikey Chapel will be having a Indian Taco Sale to benefit our youth on June 18, 2011. The cost of the Indian taco is $ 5.00. Our address is 8815 E 101st St., Tulsa.

We will be serving from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Royce Wittman at 918-284-7003.

MCN Head Start now accepting applications

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application. All races and ethnicities may apply.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

Mvskoke Language CDs

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Language Program has a 9-CD set containing over 600 Mvskoke words and phrases for $15. An additional CD ROM containing all of the audio including the written Mvskoke words and phrases is available for $5.

For more information or to order a set, please call (918) 732-7724.

NAWS Tike Chapman Memorial Golf Challenge

CATOOSA — The Native American Warriors Society is holding their first annual SGT Tike Chapman Memorial Golf Challenge to help support Native American troops Saturday, July 30 at the Cherokee Hills Golf Club.

Registration begins at 7 a.m., and Shotgun Start begins at 8 a.m. There will be a 4-person scramble. Hole and team sponsorships are available for $125 for an individual and $400 for teams.

Entry fee includes: green fees, cart fees, range balls, lunch, goodie bags, Return Play Foursome and a discount card from Cherokee Hills.

For more information, contact Dwayne or Yvonne Cahwee at (918) 946-8024 or visit http://nawtulsa.angelfire.com/okla/

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Ellis visits Creek soldiers at Camp Shelby

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

Courtesy/*MCNPR*

Pictured above are Capt. Robert B. Lusty of Holdenville and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis. Ellis visited Lusty and distributed commemorative Council House medallions to other Creek soldiers training at Camp Shelby, Miss., in April

CAMP SHELBY, Miss., — At the invitation of the commander, Maj. Gen. Myles Deering, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis traveled to Camp Shelby, Miss., to visit Creek members of the U.S. Army's 45th Brigade Infantry Combat Team, prior to their year-long deployment to Afghanistan. This will be the unit's largest deployment since the Korean War. Oklahoma's National Guard Thunderbird Division is how it is known to many Oklahomans. Its thousands of members were recently honored by Gov. Mary Fallin and the Oklahoma Legislature in mid-April.

Among the ranks are about 40 soldiers who are members of the Muscogee Nation. These were the soldiers that Ellis visited, April 27 - 28.

Since the unit was in the midst of training exercises, he only had the opportunity to meet with one, Capt. Robert B. Lusty.

The trip, he said, was essential to let the Muscogee members of the Guard know, that their tribe was thinking about them, "I was disappointed that I didn't get to see but one of them. I think it's important to them that they know that the tribe knows they are there. I had to represent the tribe down there."

> *". . .I think it's important to them that they know that the tribe knows they are there. I had to represent the tribe down there"*
>
> — MCN Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

Ellis asked Lusty if he needed anything when he went overseas, "He said, the only thing he needed was a Creek Nation flag. I told him we'll get you a Creek Nation flag."

Ellis remembered answering questions from a military reporter who wanted his opinion on the U.S. presence in Afghanistan, "I told her that I didn't agree totally with what we were doing over there, but I know we've got to be there. I'm sure that all the young men down there agree with what they're doing."

During his visit, Ellis toured Camp Shelby, watched training exercises conducted in simulated Afghan villages, inhabitants complete with robes and turbans. Each Guard member carried their weapons at the ready, preparing for the atmosphere in hostile country. Ellis observed the wargames, watched vehicles in action and even sampled the rations eaten by troops in the field.

As the Thunderbird Division was preparing to deploy to the Middle East, the death of Osama bin Laden was announced. Ellis reflected on that development, "I think he was kind of a legend over there… when they took him out, I think it helped a lot, especially morale."

Ellis gave several Muscogee Council House medallions to Capt. Lusty, asking him to distribute them among the other Muscogee military. In turn, Lusty presented the Chief with his personal knife, "He said, it's all I've got, take my knife." Ellis vowed to return the blade, "I said, when you get back from the war, I'll give it back to you."

2011 Festival sign-ups now available

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — MCN Tourism & Recreation has announced dates of the annual Festival Slow Pitch Softball Tournament for June 17-19, 2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held the following weekend on June 23-26, 2011.

Sign-ups for both slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball are now available on-line and through the Tourism & Recreation Office.

Commemorative Festival 2011 mugs in four designs are available for purchase for $8 each as well as raffle tickets to win a 2011 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200 Low. Tickets for the motorcycle are available for $5 each or five for $20. The drawing is open to everyone and winner will be announced and awarded on Saturday, June 25, 2011 after 6 p.m. Participants need not be present to win.

Sponsorships are still available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that meets the needs of your company or organization.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

Barresi to add Native culture, history to state curricula

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY — "We have currently a vacancy in our Indian Education division, so I'm am going to be seeking input from our inter-tribal council and other individuals that are involved in Native American issues." That's the first step to be taken by Oklahoma Superintendent of Education, Janet Barresi, in fulfilling a pledge to add more Native American history and culture to state education curricula. In recent weeks, the top Okla. educator told a symposium on Indian education that she intends to see that Native culture is taught to Oklahoma students on a regular basis.

In an interview with Mvskoke Radio, May 11, Barresi said, "We're going to take the scope of the work and expand it, and focus on two primary objectives. The first one is to focus on the learning styles and the learning challenges of our Native American children in our public schools today. Also, the other area will be taking a look at developing a stronger embedding of the teaching of our proud heritage in Okla. of our Native American culture."

Barresi would like to see Indian subject matter become a part of the whole range of public school curricula, including social studies and literacy.

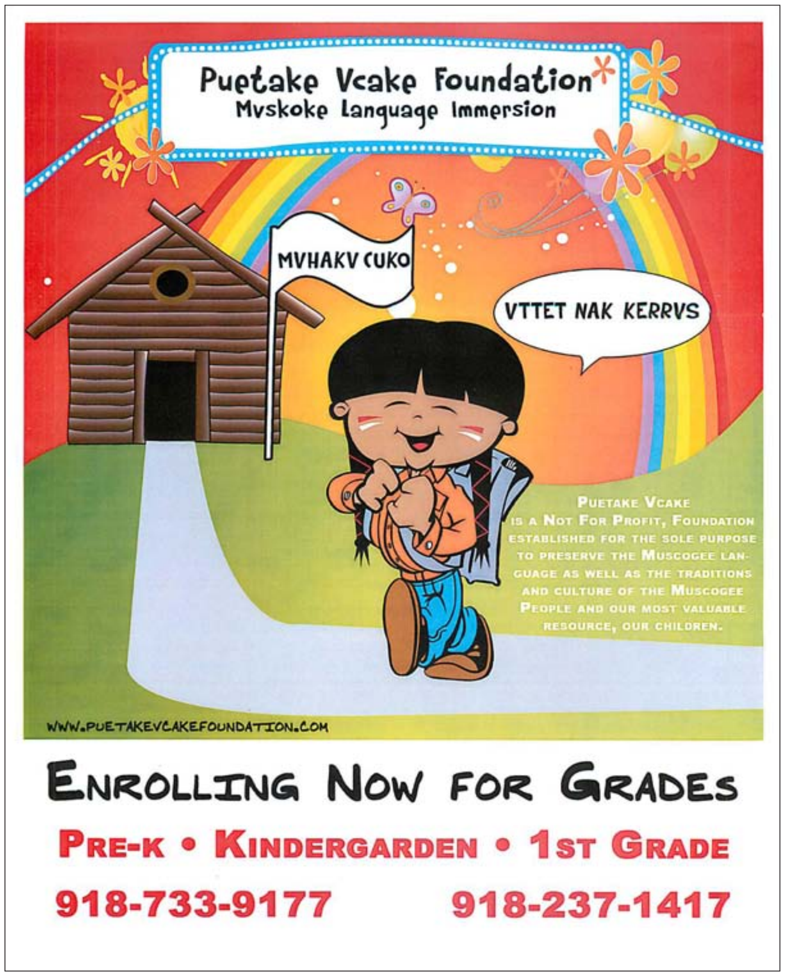
Implementing such a plan, she said, will take careful review and research, "I don't have any pre-conceived ideas about how that needs to look. I think we need to go through a careful planning process, taking a look at what's already being taught within our schools, to get comment on that and make sure the concerns of all the tribes across the state are represented."

There are 37 federally recognized tribes in Okla. They range from the Plains tribes already indigenous to the area, to those tribes relocated here from other parts of the United States. That's a pretty wide range of Native cultures she admits.

Barresi said they would rely on the new Indian education coordinator and input from the tribes themselves to provide that guidance.

The amount of dollars set aside for this Indian education focus will be crucial to its success. Barresi said, they would be exploring all possible avenues, "We'll be taking a look at the present level of funding for that position. We're going to be looking for possibilities of public and private partnerships in assisting on this. We'll be taking a look at any federal dollars that may exist for this and then we'll be able to put a budget on it."

Barresi predicted that Native educators will get the chance to share their input in the coming weeks, "We have, I believe, a meeting set up in June to begin the discussions. I have not have the chance to sit down with any individuals or individual groups. Really this is an issue to, first of all, find out what our needs are, and then, begin the planning to set up some goals for the program, then set up a time line for implementation of those goals and begin the process."


Puetake Vcake Foundation
Mvskoke Language Immersion

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Emvponayv

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — This is my first assignment as a columnist. It's my first shot at sharing opinion after years of working as a person who isn't supposed to have an opinion on the things a reporter is reporting on. I confess I have no illusions toward literary artistry. I'm an ordinary guy here. This column is called 'Emvponayv,' "One Who Tells The Story." It's meant to share some observances on things that I'm thinking about, happenings in Muscogee country, the rest of Native America and Disneyland-on-the-Potomac—Washington, D.C.

During my career, I've had the chance to actually see and touch parts of history from our ancestors and the past, both here and around the country. That has had a strange effect on me. Holding an artifact, I can sense it's power. The first time I had this feeling was at Northeastern State College. I was alone in what was the museum space at the time with exhibits lying about on tables. I just couldn't resist the temptation to pick up a Civil War musket that had its bayonet fixed. In that second, I felt its weight and its purpose as a tool of war. I wondered about one of our ancestors who had carried it and what was he like? What kinds of feelings did he have when he used that deadly tool against another human being? Something much closer to our culture was the chance to see and touch an ancient hat, woven from cypress and river cane. It was, perhaps, a ceremonial headdress. Its colors were old and faded and the woven fabric was beginning to fragment. But, it still possessed a power that was wasn't diminished by time. When I touched it, my fingers tingled. Imagine the stories this hat could tell.

Enough about the past, here's something from today's news.

With the military taking out one of America's most despised enemies, Osama Bin Laden, comes a renewed issue we've seen before: the use of Native American labels for the enemies of this country. In our contemporary history, enemy territory has been referred to as Indian country by past military commanders. Now, we're hearing a new controversy rage about attaching the name of famed Apache warrior, Geronimo, to the military operation that got Bin Laden and/or for the late terrorist leader himself. Why? Of all the millions of names that could have been chosen, why choose this one? What is the thinking behind it? The U.S military has had thousands of Native Americans fill its ranks and fight its wars. As a matter of fact, Native warriors have fought in every American war, including the one that started this country, the one that would have divided it and the one it's fighting now. Our veterans salute the Stars and Stripes. It makes one wonder, does somebody still think we're the enemy, or what?

How about this, "Andrew Jackson: EKIA or John Wayne: EKIA."

OBITUARIES

BARBARA JEAN LONG

OKMULGEE — Barbara Jean Long passed away at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital on Thursday, May 12, 2011, at the age of 69 years.

Barbara was the daughter of David Long, Sr. & Elouise (Alexander) Long, born on February 16, 1942, in Holdenville, Okla.

She lived her younger years in various parts of Okla., and was brought up as a "PK" - preacher's kid. She graduated Ponca City High School in 1960.

She lived in Oklahoma City and worked for 35 years as an LPN at Deaconess Hospital, and had lived for the past seven years in Okmulgee.

Barbara was a member of the Salt Creek United Methodist Church, and a member of the United Methodist Women. She always cared for her family, and when she retired from nursing she became their full-time 'family doctor'. She had no children of her own, but spent all her time taking care of everyone else's kids. Her nieces and nephew knew her as 'Aunt Barb', and her great nieces and nephews called her 'Nan'. She had a special relationship with them all, and she will be greatly missed.

She is preceded in death by her parents, David & Elouise Long; one sister, Betsy Mozelle Long; an aunt, Melissa Deere; a cousin, Kenneth Deere, who was like a brother to her.

She is survived by one brother, David 'Dave' Long, Jr. and wife Cogee, of Okmulgee; one nephew, David Long III of Muskogee; three nieces: Melissa Gardner of Oklahoma City, Lisa Deere of Muskogee, and Johnna Gouge of Coweta; three 'grandchildren': Billy Gardner and wife Ashley, of Oklahoma City, Phyllis Gardner and husband Harold Gaul, of OKC, Caleb Long of OKC; two 'great grandchildren', Noah Gaul and Ella Gardner; various other relatives and a host of friends.

Funeral services were Monday, May 16, 2011, 2 p.m., at Salt Creek United Methodist Church, and Barbara was laid to rest in the Harjo Family Cemetery north of Holdenville.

Officiating ministers were Rev. Eli McHenry, Rev. Joe lowe and Rev. Paul Fixico.

Pallbearers were Dick Albro, Jimmy Salyer, Bill Gardner, Chris Aultman, Randy Aultman and Joe McHenry. Honorary pallbearers were Louis McCeeIey, Jr., Robert McCeeley, Wayne McCeeley, Tenetke Deer, Kosa Deere, Clenn Zink, Doug Scott, and the United Methodist Women.

Services were under direction of Fisher Funeral Home of Holdenville

MARY STREET

HITCHITA — Mary King Street passed away Friday, March 18, 2011, at her home in Hitchita, Okla., at the age of 91. She was born Dec. 4, 1919, in Hitchita to Hully and Alice (McNac) King.

Mary was raised in Hitchita and attended Eufaula and Chilocco Indian Schools. In April of 1943 Mary married Virgil H. Street and they made their home in Wichita, Kansas. Mary worked at Beech Aircraft until her retirement in 1982.

After her husband retired in 1984 they returned to Hitchita, Okla.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Virgil H. Street; son, Victor J. Street; sister, Hazel Fields; and brothers, Daniel (Billy) King and Jesse King.

She is survived by her daughters, Mary L. Street of the home, Irene Pohl and her husband Johnnie; daughter-in-law, Susie Street; four grandchildren, Victoria Whitetree and husband Cordell, Mary Rodriguez and husband Mark, Victor J. Street Jr. and wife Danielle, Crystal Williams and husband Conrad; fourteen great-grandchildren, Cory and Jerry, Dominic, Boo, Joseph and Alex, Caleb, Hunter and Teagan, Ramonyka, P.J., Cheyton, Chekota, Cheveyo; sisters, Lizzie Johnson and Janie Bishop; as well as many other relatives, friends and loved ones.

SAMMY YAHOLA

TULSA — Sammy Lee Yahola passed away at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa on Thursday, May 12, 2011, at the age of 54 years.

Sammy was the son of Alex and Minnie (Lowe) Yahola, born on Nov. 28, 1956, at Talihina, Oklahoma. He was brought up and attended schools in Holdenville, his home until moving to Tulsa in 2001. He was a member of the Pecan Grove Methodist Church. He loved listening to 'Oldies' music.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Alex & Minnie Yahola; two brothers, Amos Yahola and William Yahola; three sisters: Celia Ann Marshall, Annie Yahola and Linda Yahola.

Funeral services were Tuesday, May 17, 2011, 1 p.m., at Pecan Grove Methodist Church north of Holdenville. Sammy was laid to rest in the Yeager Cemetery, with his nephews serving as pallbearers. Rev. Malcolm Tiger was the officiating minister.

He is survived by four brothers: Lewis Yahola of Wewoka, Ben Yahola, Raymond Yahola and Jonas Yahola, all of Tulsa; four sisters: Betty Tiger of Holdenville, Virginia Powell of Seminole, Imogene Yahola and Ella Morgan, both of Tulsa; numerous nieces and nephews, other relatives, and many friends.

THANK YOU

TULSA — The family would like to express our "THANK YOU" to the friends and relatives for their prayers, and support during our difficult time. Thank you to Pecan Grove Pastor Malcolm Tiger, Tukvputcee Pastor Paul Fixico, Fisher Funeral Home, and to Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the food and burial vouchers. The presence of friends and family during the services were greatly appreciated.

Pecan Grove Church would also like to the Tribal Driveway.

— Family of Sammy Yahola

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ACCOMPLISHMENT

RAVEN MORGAN

MCALESTER — The Miss and Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma pageant were held April 30, 2011, in McAlester, Okla. The titles of Miss and Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma are held by the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women.

Each candidate competed in the categories of: essay writing, interviews, description of tribal dress, tribal greeting/introduction, traditional talent, contemporary wear, presentation of platform and impromptu question. The age division for Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma is 13-17 years-old. Raven Morgan was awarded Best Tribal Dress, Miss Congeniality and 2011 Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma title.

Morgan's platform is "Be Aware of Indian Foster Care" which is promoting and encouraging American Indians to become foster parents so that American Indian children can be placed in homes for preservation of tribal identity and culture.

Morgan is the 15 year-old daughter of Victor & LaRenda Rickman Morgan of Oklahoma City. Raven is an enrolled member of Pawnee and is also Cheyenne-Arapaho, Otoe and Muscogee Creek.

She attends Moore Public Schools. Raven has one older brother, Victor Morgan Jr., and two dogs, Sam and Roscoe. Raven has previously held the titles of 2007 Oklahoma Indian Bikers Princess, 2008 Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma City and 2010 Pawnee Nation Princess.

On her maternal side of her family, Raven was given the Cheyenne name Ma̓etomoná̓e meaning RedPaintWoman. Raven is the granddaughter of Micki Black (Cheyenne-Arapaho) of El Reno. Raven is the great granddaughter and a Arapaho Lumpmouth Descendent of the late Edward Lumpmouth Black Sr. (Arapaho) and the late Rev. Joann Black-Williams (Cheyenne), an ordained minister of the United Methodist Church and descendent of the Sand Creek Massacre. There are Native American Church roots In both of Raven's Cheyenne & Arapaho heritage.

Raven is the granddaughter of the late Forrest Rickman (Otoe) and the great granddaughter of Charles and Clarice Deroin-Rickman (Otoe) of Ponca City. She is the great, great granddaughter of the late William and Daisy Roubideaux-Deroin (Otoe). Her Otoe family heritage also is rooted in the Native American Church.

On her paternal side of her family Raven is Kitkihahtki, Skidi, Chaui, Pitahawirata Bands of Pawnee. Her Pawnee name is Chupitit Taka translated Morning Star or Brightest Star. She is the granddaughter of Tom & Margaret Morgan (Pawnee) of Oklahoma City. She is the great granddaughter of the late William & Mamie Grant Morgan (Pawnee) and the great, great granddaughter of the late Pawnee Chief Tom and Susie Morgan. Chief Tom Morgan was the last Pawnee Chief over all four bands of the Pawnee and was a charter member in the Pawnee Chapter of Native American Church and the originator of the Morgan Family fireplace. Raven was named after her great grandmother Mamie Morgan.

Raven is also of the granddaughter of the late Patricia Posey Morgan, (Muskogee Creek) and the great granddaughter of Tom & Betty Posey (Muscogee Creek) who were Charter members of Glorieta Indian Baptist Church of Oklahoma City.

Raven is a member of the El Reno Indian Fellowship United Methodist Church as well as Jay Mule's Morning Star Ministries. She is also involved in school organizations and has served on head staff for dances and powwows. Raven competes in the Southern Cloth dance competitions.

Raven would like to thank her family and friends for their support. She looks forward to representing the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Woman, the State of Oklahoma, all tribes, and her family and friends during her 2011 Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma reign.

ANNOUNCEMENT

CYNTHIA AND THOMAS LONG

ORLANDO, Fla., — Cynthia Jessie and Thomas Long were married this past New Years Eve in Orlando, Fla.

Cynthia is the daughter of Wanda and Bill Morrison of Santa Fe, N.M., and William Jessie of Idabel, Okla., and the granddaughter of the late Hepsey and Clemon Gilroy.

Thomas is the son of Florence Long of Heathrow, Fla., and the late Thomas F. Long.

The marriage ceremony was held at Savannah Park Clubhouse followed by a wedding reception attended by family and friends.

The couple will be taking their delayed honeymoon to the Cayman Islands, BWI in May.

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Muscogee Nation

37th annual Festival 2011

Celebrate
Life!

June 3
Scholarship Pageant

June 17-19
Basketball 3 on 3 Adult
Slow Pitch Softball

June 23
Stomp Dance 7:30 PM

June 24-26
- 5K Run/Walk
- INFR Tour Rodeo
- Arts & Crafts
- Basketball 3 on 3 Youth
- Child Safety Seat Check
- Children's Fun Fair
- Creek Hymn/Gospel Singing
- Farmers' Market
- Fast Pitch Softball
- Golf
- Horseshoes
- Junior Olympics
- Live Entertainment
- Living Legends
- Parade
- Senior Citizens' Activities
- Traditional Games
- Volleyball

Live Entertainment

JO DEE MESSINA | 6.24.11

The PLATEROS | 6.25.11

DENNIS DeYOUNG: | 6.25.11
the MUSIC of STYX

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

June 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 9

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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Miss Muscogee crowned

• Scott named 2011-2012 Miss Muscogee

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Pictured above are the 2011-2012 Miss Muscogee Leah Scott and Jr. Miss Muscogee Nation Nancy Leigh Deere (center; left to right) who were crowned Friday, June 3, 2011 in Henryetta, Okla., amongst a crowd of family, friends and other tribal royalty.

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

HENRYETTA — The Henryetta High School Auditorium was the stage for the Miss Muscogee Nation and Jr. Miss Muscogee Nation Princess Pageant. The yearly event which officially kicks off the Creek Nation Festival month was held Friday, June 3.

Although all participants were certainly worthy of carrying the mantle for the year, the judges selected Leah Scott as Miss Muscogee Nation and Nancy Leigh Deere as this year's Jr. Miss. Jessica Sands was the runner-up in the Jr. Miss Competition and Mallory Buckley in the Miss Muscogee Nation.

"It was the best ever - so organized, so planned out," said Virginia Thomas, event coordinator. Thomas said there were 16 members on the pageant committee, from greeters to stage directors, that helped make the event run smoothly and wished to thank everyone for their help.

A reception for this year's royalty will be held Saturday, June 11 at 11 a.m., at the Creek Council House in Okmulgee, Okla., located at 100 W. 6th St.

State of the Nation set for June 24

Media Release
Muscogee Nation News

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis will give his final State of the Nation Address on Friday, June 24, 2011 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The event will take place at the Claude Cox Omniplex Multipurpose Building just before the Living Legends are announced.

Created by Ellis in 2005, the Living Legends ceremony honors Muscogee (Creek) citizens who have made significant contributions to the MCN.

There will also be a grand opening of the Multipurpose Building prior to these events at 4:30 p.m.

All events are free and open to the public. Fore more information on Living Legends, call (918) 732-7605.

Former Second Chief Crow passes

Media Release
Muscogee Nation News

TULSA — Shelly Crow, the first female to serve as Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, died at the age of 63. Crow had been battling health problems for some time and passed away May 23, 2011 at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Okla.

She was born Jan. 27, 1948 in Henryetta to Everett Walter Stubbs and Doretha Laverne (Beaver) Stubbs.

She was of the Tukuputce Tribal Town and the Raccoon Clan.

Crow was a graduate of Daniel Webster High School in Tulsa, class of 1966. Shelly received her Associate degree from Tulsa Junior College and became a registered nurse.

She later attended Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, earning a Bachelor of Science Nursing (BSN) degree. She eventually completed her Master's Degree in Nursing (MSN) at the University of Oklahoma.

SEE CROW - A4

A2 EXECUTIVE

Letters to the Editor

A3 EDITORIAL

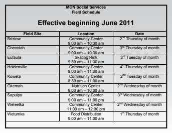
Former Second Chief
Crow passes
(continued)

A4 VETERANS

Lowe leads T&R to new heights

A6 SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services
June Field
Schedule



MCN Social Services
Field Schedule

Effective beginning June 2011

Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	2nd Thursday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	3rd Thursday of month
Eufaula	Skating Rink 9:30 am – 11:30 am	3rd Tuesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	4th Thursday of month
Koweta	Community Center 8:30 am – 11:00 am	2nd Tuesday of month
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	2nd Wednesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	3rd Wednesday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	2nd Wednesday of month
Wetumka	Food Distribution 9:00 am – 11:00 am	1st Thursday of month

A7 ELECTION BOARD

Absentee Ballot Request Forms due Aug. 25

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

Muscogee Nation News
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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

NAJA

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from April 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

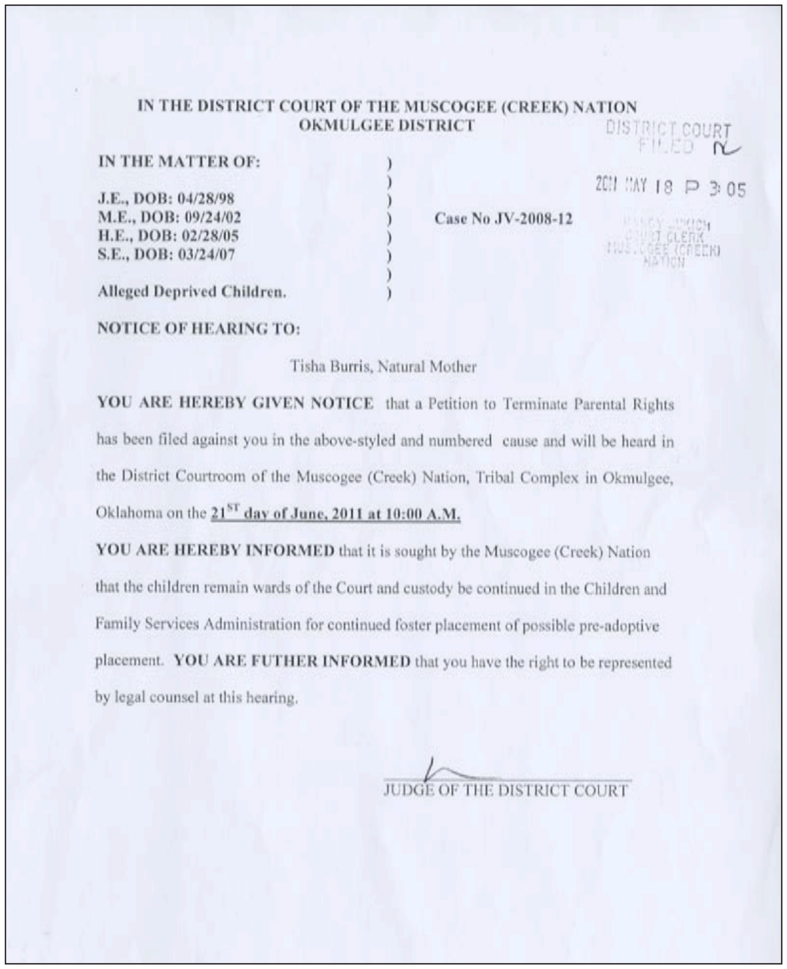
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Estherlene Gee, Individually & officially as the chairperson of the Okmuglee Indian Community	Petition
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Mekko Tyner, Individually	Petition
Lavon Fleming v. RiverSpirit Casino & Tribal First	Petition
Suzanne Dallas v. Jason Watson	Petition
Pricilla Harkness and Timothy Zubah v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Petition
Phillip Tolbert v. Dena Black	Petition
Springleaf Financial v. Kristy Chalk	Small Claims
In re: Dansby Christina	Name Change
Southcrest, LLC., D/B/A Southcrest Hospital v. Teresa Burks	Foreign Judgment
Melanie Artussee v. Jamaal Hogshooter	Petition
Brandon Dennis v. Brandi Neal	Petition
Warren Fultz v. Arriel Johnson	Petition
Western Sun Federal Credit Union v. Dana Johnson	Small Claims
Progressive Car Finance, LLC., v. Nettie Harjo	Petition
Sun Loan v. Joe Jackson	Foreign Judgment
Penny Masterson v. David Crum	Petition

Divorce:

Georgia Walston v. Dwen Walston III	Divorce
Natasha Shelburn v. Charles Shelburn	Divorce
Michael Holly v. Desiree Holly	Divorce
Jody Witte v. Christopher Witte	Divorce
Nicholas Farrow v. Marlie Farrow	Divorce
Sandra Smith v. Robert Smith	Divorce
Tronia O'Conner v. Jimmie O'Conner	Divorce
Ambrosia Mayhew v. Samuel Tillery	Divorce
Yurita Henry v. Kenneth Henry	Divorce
Amy Grafton v. Michael Grafton	Divorce
Adam Smith v. Brianna Herrington	Divorce
Travis Scott v. Alison Scott	Divorce
Lisa Sarnie v. Jeremy Ragsdale	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Donna Meat v. Elmer Jack	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., June Hawkins v. Robert Knickerbocker	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Sheena Proctor v. Newman Phillips Jr.	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Lori Curry v. Michael Reid	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Carmelita Natseway v. Ryan Jones	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Sherry Hicks v. Leroy Harjo	Child Support



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 MAY 18 P 3:05
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:

J.E., DOB: 04/28/98
M.E., DOB: 09/24/02
H.E., DOB: 02/28/05
S.E., DOB: 03/24/07

Alleged Deprived Children.

Case No JV-2008-12

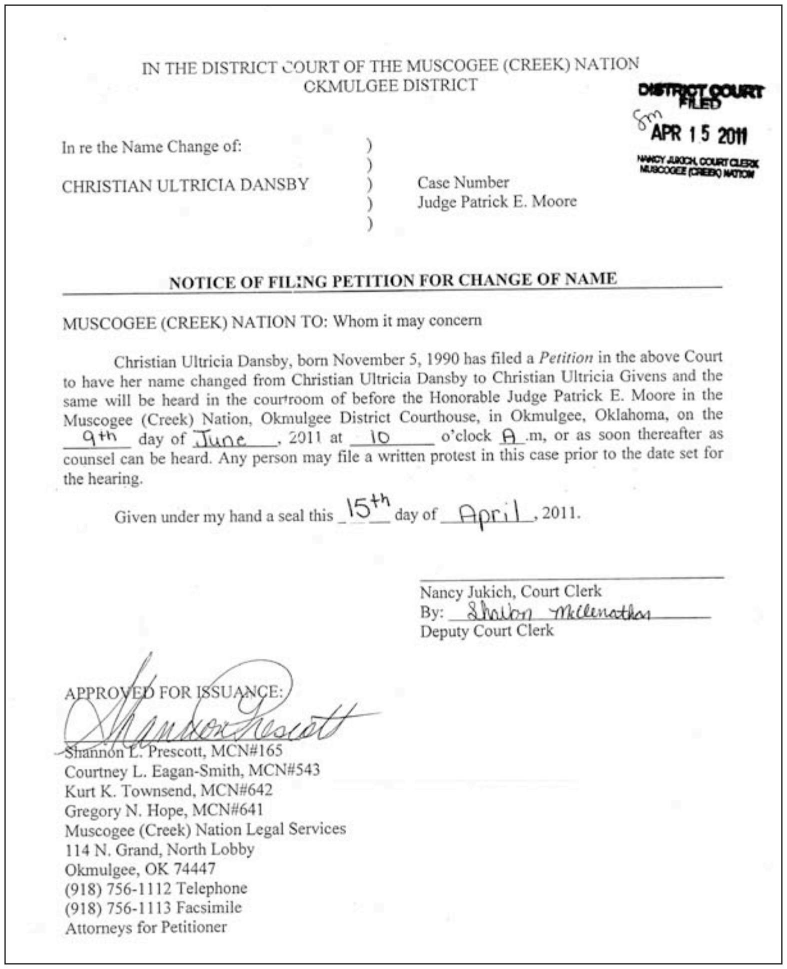
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tisha Burris, Natural Mother

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **21ST day of June, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
APR 15 2011
NANCY JUKICH, COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the Name Change of:

CHRISTIAN ULTRICIA DANSBY

Case Number
Judge Patrick E. Moore

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Christian Ultricia Dansby, born November 5, 1990 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed from Christian Ultricia Dansby to Christian Ultricia Givens and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 9th day of June, 2011 at 10 o'clock A.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 15th day of April, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Shalon McClenathan
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:
Shannon Prescott
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
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Attorneys for Petitioner

Letters to the Editor

Citizen remarks on April 15 photograph

OKFUSKEE — I would appreciate an answer to my question regarding our Muscogee Nation Newspaper dated April 15, 2011, Vol. 41, Issue 7.

A picture on the first page states, "The Muscogee Creek Nation children from the Office of Child Care and Head Start Program participated in a balloon release for National Child Abuse Awareness Month of April [children from the local Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care and Head Start programs who participated in a balloon release in recognition of national Child Abuse Awareness Month in April]."

It did not show an Indian face.

My question is, where are the Muscogee (Creek) children? Were they sick that day?

Information provided: six mix bloods, four whites, one black and 70 Native American Indian children are in the program.

When I contacted Gerald Wofford about this picture, he did not have an answer. After I did further research on this item, I attempted to call the manager, Wofford. No answer. I left my name and number and I have not received a call back yet.

I was looking into some old history book also, about Indian of the U.S. Military 1900-1945. The only listing shows, white, black, others. But again like the U.S.A., we Native Americans, are forgotten, even in our own paper, within our own tribal boundaries.

My G. Father was a Snake follower. I guess it's still in my blood.

– Brent Harjo-Moffer,
Okfuskee Wind Clan

Staff responds to April 15 photograph

OKMULGEE — The cover photo from the April 15, 2011 edition of the Muscogee Nation News shows three Indian boys among the group of children releasing balloons. Although there are no full facial shots, there are brown-skinned Indian boys included in the photo. One is shown looking at the camera, one has his arms outstretched upward and another is looking to the sky as the balloons ascend. The children, parents and staff were standing in mixed groups, so picking out a purely Indian group was not possible.

The focus of the photo was on the action of the balloon release. It took place extremely quickly and not all on cue. Shots of the children were taken in the mere seconds available to shoot the photographs. This group shot demonstrated the best action of children participating in the balloon release for Child Abuse Prevention Month. The digital camera did not recharge quickly enough to capture as many brown-skinned Creek faces releasing their balloons. The printing process used for the paper also makes it more difficult to differentiate the children's skin color.

The actual release of the balloons was more important than the color of the children's' skin. The idea was to share a photo of children taking part in an activity to highlight Child Abuse Prevention Month. Who is to say that the darker skinned children were not Creek? The Muscogee heritage has history of inter-racial families. It would not be right to discriminate against a child because of skin color.

Child abuse observes no skin color boundaries, so maybe we shouldn't either.

- Gary Fife
MNN Reporter/Photographer

Crow

Continued from A1

Shelly worked as a Registered Nurse at Hillcrest Hospital in Tulsa for several years. She later taught nursing at the University of Tulsa and Langston University, Tulsa Campus. Later, Shelly was the school nurse for Dustin, Ryal, Hanna and Graham Public Schools.

Shelly married John Crow on April 21, 1969 in Eufaula, Oklahoma, and they had two children together.

She was an active member of the Henryetta Church of Christ.

Shelly, who was 1/4 Muscogee Creek, served as the only female Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation from 1992 until 1996 under the administration of former Principal Chief Bill Fife.

"She was a strong lady," said Fife when told of the news, "she always did what she felt was right, and was involved with a lot of health issues that helped our tribe."

Crow's service to the tribe during her tenure as Second Chief was not only to the Creek Nation but also to Native Americans in general. Crow served in the office of the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission in 1993. She was asked to assist former First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in the position of Policy & Evaluation on the Healthcare Reform Taskforce in the 90s after testifying before Congress on the disparities of American Indian Health.

Crow, a registered nurse, received her degree from the University of Oklahoma in Nursing as well as a Master of Science as a Community Clinical Nurse Specialist.

Crow also served on the Oklahoma Indian Health Service Area Health Board, Claremore Indian Advisory Board, National Nursing Higher Education Board, Oklahoma Rural Health Board, Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission and numerous other health committees.

She also participated in a three-year research project focusing on alcoholism within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The findings were published by Aspen for use in public health schools and community nursing text books.

Crow is survived by husband John Crow III and one daughter, Leslie, two grandchildren Morgan Lynn Taylor and John Zachary Taylor both of Henryetta, as well as a host of relatives and friends.

In memory of their son John Crow III, who was killed in an auto-pedestrian accident in 1995, Shelly and her husband John began a foundation that worked with rural youth to promote healthy lifestyles and education through scholarships and substance abuse prevention programs.

When elected in Nov. 1991, Crow told the *Muscogee Nation News*, "There are people in churches, in tribal towns and in the ceremonial grounds that have ideas and needs. I also want to see people in the cities and outside the boundaries have input."

Upon receiving the news, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis commented, "It was tough to hear. I spoke with her a lot, about every week. The last time I did speak with her was last week [before she passed away] and she said that she felt that the worst of her health problems were probably behind her and that she even felt about maybe serving the tribe again in the future in some capacity. I lost a good friend."

Funeral services were held Friday May 27, 2011 at 1 p.m., at the Church of Christ in Henryetta,

Lowe leads T&R to new heights

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Pictured above is William Lowe, Director of Tourism & Recreation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. T&R is chiefly responsible for the coordination of the MCN Festival.

OKMULGEE — He's been on the job for only one month, but, one of his first tasks is overseeing the largest cultural event the tribe puts on each year, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival. That's quite a start for William Lowe, the new Director of Tourism and Recreation for the MCN. The Creek citizen says he settling into the job and glad to be working for his own tribe.

He plans to market the Muscogee Nation by first cataloguing the assets for the visitor industry. "Right now, our focus is to an inventory of all our historical sites. When we're doing this inventory, we map out the distances from each site to another, so we're almost creating itineraries for future visitors."

He hopes to partner with the Creek museum and anthropologists to provide the historical background, then his department will begin promotional campaigns.

To effectively make that happen for the MCN, Lowe wants to tackle a perception held by most of the world that the Cherokee people were the focus of the Indian Removals during the mid-1830s, "I think our mission here is to educate the world about the Muscogee (Creek) people and what resources and assets we have as a tribe. I think its now our time to tell the world that we prospered after the Trail of Tears."

People all over the world and in this country, he said, make an inaccurate connection, "The thing I found, the common denominator, when you say the Trail of Tears', they automatically associate the Cherokees with the Trail of Tears. It's almost like a 'brand message' type deal." Lowe worked for the Cherokee Nation in their tourism department, so he's seen that misconception close up.

Working with the State of Oklahoma will also be a big job. Not all the history between the tribe and the State of Oklahomas' has been positive. To overcome a sometimes rocky relationship, Lowe thinks that will be a challenging task, "As far as working with the state, we try to keep all that political stuff out of it, although it does affect us big time. But for me, as a professional partnering with the state on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, its to help them better tell our story. Lowe said, he would also include the darker portions of that relationship, "That's already history. I would work closely with the (MCN) Cultural Preservation Department in a partnership, find a way that they would approve on how we would tell this story because people want to know the real history of your tribe."

Cultural sensitivity would be high on his list of priorities to determine what portions of Muscogee culture could or shouldn't be shared. He plans to work closely with the Cultural Preservation staff and local communities to discuss those limits, "I would like to have a meeting with the different communities within the tribe, to even further our research, to say 'what are your takes, how far can we go in telling our story?' and getting community buy-in on our initiative in trying to tell our story."

Besides the cultural and site inventory, Lowe plans to upgrade their department's portion of the tribal web site and add photos that best represent the tribe. They'll be planning tours for visitors, and coordinating with the facilities available at the River Spirit Casino and the Event Center to get the best use for tribe from those facilities.

As far as the kind of things Lowe doesn't want to see, he says tourism and marketing for the MCN will not include any cheap 'quick buck trinket' style merchandising or exploitation of the Muscogee culture. There's no room for that, he declared, "I don't want to see inaccuracies. We're not the dime-store, 'made-in-China dreamcatchers' that you see in some of these places you go to. We didn't wear headdresses so I wouldn't want to see headdresses with our seal on it or something crazy like that."

Lowe will be trying to find additional uses for tribal sporting complexes and more uses for the Claude Cox Omniplex. That could include baseball and softball tournaments, concert series, art exhibitions and trade shows, as well as tribal meetings, events and celebrations.

For More information, contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993.

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko!

Firstly, I want to address Mr. Harjo-Moffer's concerns about the April 15 edition of the *Muscogee Nation News.*

He states, "It did not show an Indian face. . . where are the Muscogee (Creek) children?"

I have to disagree that the front page didn't show an Indian face. In fact, it showed several "Indian" faces.

Mvskokes come in brown, red, yellow, white, black and every color in between. We are a diverse people that share a unique and proud heritage that *every* citizen should be able to enjoy. The *Muscogee Nation News* has certainly not 'forgotten' about our people, and I will continue to embrace the extraordinary legacy of multiculturalism present within this Nation.

It's festival time in Mvskoke Nation. Congratulations to the new Miss and Junior Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant winners who were crowned over the weekend.

There's plenty to do this month, whether it's softball, gospel singing or listening to the sounds of Dennis DeYoung, the 37th annual event is sure to please.

So, grab a lawn chair, some shades and a bottle of water and enjoy the food, fun and family that can only be found in Okmulgee, Okla., this time of year!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES ARMY VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans the VASO will be hosting

“MOVIE NIGHT”
Thursday, 16 June 2011

To Celebrate
The Birth Month Of The Army (14 June 1775)

- Showtime - 2100 Hrs. - Thursday, 16 June 2011
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **“A BRIDGE TOO FAR”** (James Caan, Michael Caine and Sean Connery)
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Muscogee Army Veterans are allowed to bring one guest. (Please limit to only one guest) (Adults only)
- “MOVIE NIGHT” is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Delana Hicks at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7744

DUNK A VET!

1300 - 1600
SATURDAY, 25 JUNE 2011

In honor of our Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s VASO invites you to exercise your throwing skills in the 2nd Annual “Dunk A Vet!” at the Veterans’ building, Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. This event will be $5 for three throws and participants will have a chance to dunk MCN Veterans from all Service Branches as well as various members of our MCN National Council and our Principal Chief and Second Chief will also participate. Cokes will be for sale and Popcorn will be Free. Ample seating will be available for this event. All ages welcome.

DUNKING SCHEDULE

1300 - 1330	U.S. NAVY
1330 - 1400	U.S. AIR FORCE
1400 - 1430	MCN NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS
1430 - 1500	PRINCIPAL CHIEF & 2ND CHIEF
1500 - 1530	U.S. ARMY
1530 - 1600	U.S. MARINE CORPS

For more info contact:
Delana Hicks - 918-732-7744, Shawn Taryole - 918-732-7745 or Ken Davis - 918-732-7739

If you are a Native American Farmer

or the heir of one who was denied a

USDA farm loan or loan servicing

between 1981 and late 1999,

You can get up to $50,000 or more from a $760 million class action settlement.

To receive a payment you must file a claim by December 27, 2011.

For more information about the Keepseagle Settlement and how to file a claim:

call 1-888-233-5506
or visit www.IndianFarmClass.com.

Social Services June Field Schedule

Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	2nd Thursday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	3rd Thursday of month
Eufaula	Skating Rink 9:30 am – 11:30 am	3rd Tuesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	4th Thursday of month
Koweta	Community Center 8:30 am – 11:00 am	2nd Tuesday of month
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	2nd Wednesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	3rd Wednesday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	2nd Wednesday of month

MCN School Clothing Program applications now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, will be accepting applications for school clothing beginning Monday, May 2, 2011. Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of October 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek Citizen students no matter where you live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program consist of:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least 3 years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be 4 years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade. All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.
- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200.00. (Example: If you received $400.00 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350.00, you will be eligible to receive $200.00.) Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.00.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social

Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center.
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center.
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447. Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

Absentee ballot request forms due Aug. 25

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board has released information for the upcoming 2011 elections. The dates are as follows:

July 5, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request Forms will be mailed out (If you don't receive your absentee request form by Aug. 8, 2011, Please contact the Election Board Office at (918) 732-7631 or 732-7685.

July 6, 2011: Candidate Fair (filing information) location T.B.A.

July 18, 19-20, 2011: Candidate Filing 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 21-22, 2011: Candidate Protest

Aug. 25, 2011: Absentee Ballot Request closes at 5 p.m. (only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the election board office will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections)

Aug. 29, 2011: Absentee Ballots will be mailed

Sept. 7, 2011: Precinct Registration closes at 5 p.m.

Sept. 17, 2011: Primary Election

Sept. 19-23, 2011: Election Protest Week

Sept. 22, 2011: Precinct Registration re-opens

Oct. 17, 2011: Absentee Ballots mailed

Oct. 26, 2011: Precinct registration closes

Nov. 5, 2011: General Election

Nov. 7-11, 2011: Election protest week

More information concerning the National Council seats will be announced at a later time.

For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board office at (918) 732-7631 or (918) 732-7685.

Candidate eligibility for Principal Chief and Second Chief:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 30 years old upon filing
- Legal resident within jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing
- Filing fees for Principal Chief are $550 and $425 for Second Chief - cashier's check or money order only

Candidate eligibility for National Council Representative:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 18 years and older
- Must be a legal resident of his/her district one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing

Article VI Section 2(b), when the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

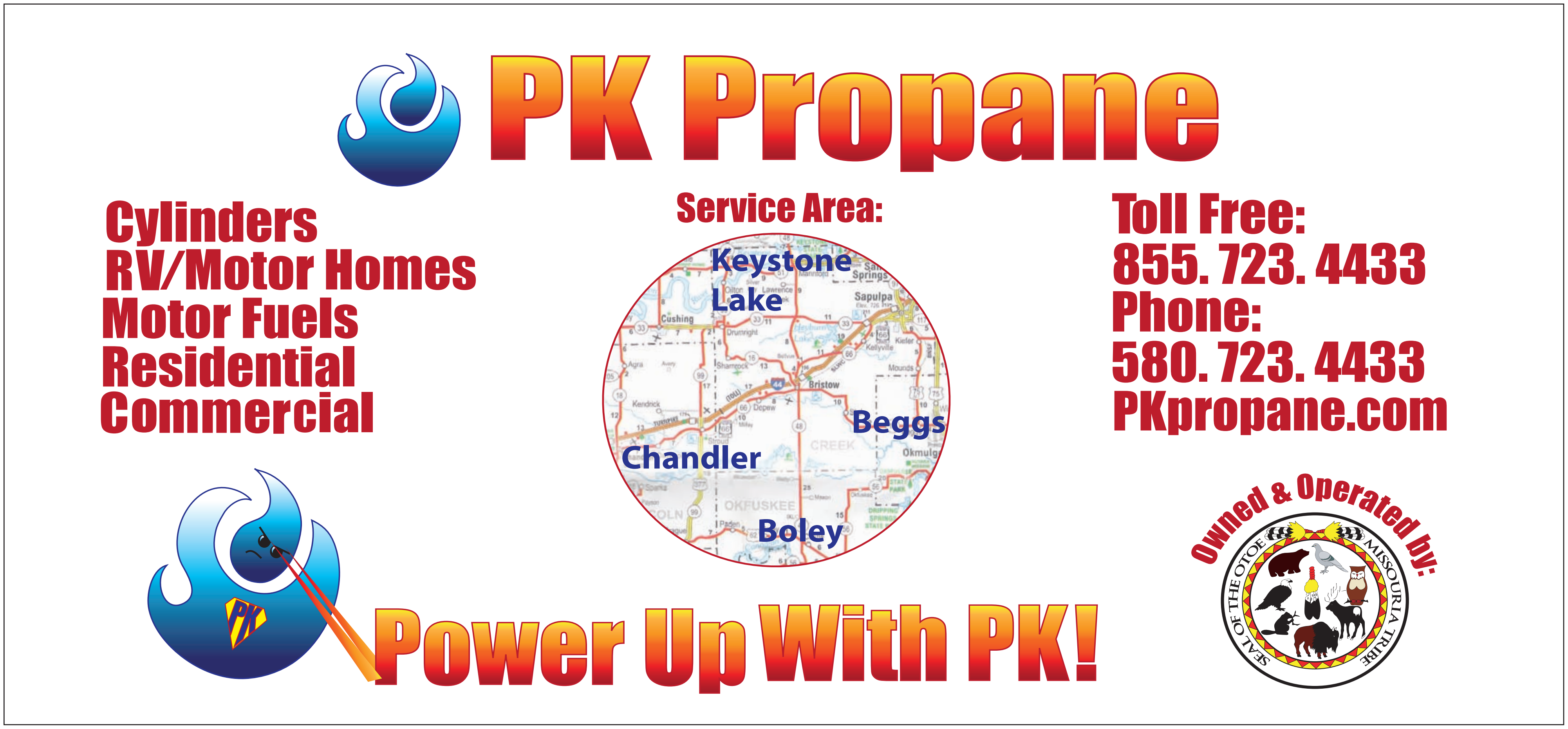
When filing please have the following documents:

- Tribal enrollment card
- MCN voter card
- Cashier's check or money order for $200 filing fee

Verification of residence; candidates will need two (2) of the following:

- Income tax return for the preceding year
- Homestead exemption or copy of property tax
- Copy of house deed or statement from Creek Housing Authority containing dates of residency
- If renting; a notarized statement form the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord's address and phone number
- Utility bill in candidate's name
- Driver's License (with current address)

(Address must be the same on all documents)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JUNE 19TH
FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL

Father's Day Casino Special
Noon - 5:00 PM
$10 Match Play for all male Diamond Club members. Hot seat drawings every 1/2 hour from 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM for prizes ranging from $50 free plays to $250 cash. At 4:00 PM we wil have prize drawings for prizes ranging from $50 free plays to $500 cash.

Father's Day Bingo Special
$8 pays $300. Each man will receive a complimentary regular session paper pack.

VIP Money Back Guarantee
Five (5) VIP bingo players receive a full refund.

Double VIP Points
Bingo VIP members will receive double points for all admission purchases.

JUNE 25TH
SIZZLIN' SUMMER $10,000 GIVEAWAY!

Noon - 5:00 PM
$10 Match Play for all Diamond Club members.

$10,000 in cash and Prizes!
Summer Hot Seat Drawings. Free T-shirt for Diamond Club members.

Sizzlin Summer Bingo Special
$7 pays $700. Mini Games pay $77.

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CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE

FEATURES

Creek theatre to be part of Festival

• 'Marty' to be translated to Creek and English for audience

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

OKMULGEE — The 37th Annual Creek Nation Festival will be full of excitement. This traditional event is a time to reflect as well as catch up with old acquaintances and even meet with family members, who because of geography or work schedules have not been able to see one another for a full year.

The festival will provide all the games, events, and spectacles that make this event unique, including a Muscogee (Creek) play.

Bob Hicks, Muscogee playwright, is directing the play 'Marty,' which features a predominantly Creek cast as well as crew will makes its debut festival weekend.

"The play has been coming together really well," said Hicks, during a break in rehearsals.

What makes this production so special is that it will be presented in the Mvskoke language as well as the English translation.

"When I moved back from Los Angeles, I was always wanted to do something, (production) a piece where everyone is talking Creek, this is actually an excerpt from a movie, when I saw this, I thought to myself that this could be done in Creek!"

It would take a while and Hicks knew he had his homework cut out for him and would need some assistance. Hicks would call upon the help of a Creek language specialist for help.

SEE MARTY - B6

MNN/*Gerald Wofford*

Pictured above are Tera Beaver (top), Myrtle Denny, Lillian Thomas and James Whitecloud round out the cast members who will be perfomring a Creek production of the play 'Marty' as part of the 37th annual MCN Festival events June 24-25, 2011.

MCN casinos announce new C.E.O., Pat Crofts

Media Release
Tulsa River Spirit Casino

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board (GOAB) has announced the hiring of Pat Crofts as the Chief Executive Officer of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Casinos, effective April 1, 2011.

Pat will be responsible for the operations and direction of the eleven (11) GOAB – managed casino properties.

Pat joins the Muscogee (Creek) Nation from the Navegante Group, an international casino operating and consulting firm which assisted in the financing, development and opening of River Spirit Casino in Tulsa. Throughout the past several months Pat has also assisted with the development of business plans and strategies for the ten additional Muscogee (Creek) Nation Casino properties.

"Mr. Crofts knows where we are headed with the expansion of all of our Muscogee (Creek) Nation Casino properties and has been a major part of our organization since the beginning of our growth. We are grateful to have filled this position with someone who has so much experience with casinos and familiarity with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," said Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

OCMA to host MCN Candidate Forum Aug. 13

Media Release
Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Assn.

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association (OCMA) will host a moderated Muscogee (Creek) Nation Candidates Forum on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Glorieta Baptist Church, Gymnasium located at 7308 S. Western, in Oklahoma City, Okla., 73139.

All Muscogee (Creek) Nation candidates running for office have been invited to participate in the forum.

The purpose of this forum is to give candidates an opportunity to address issues vital to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens who reside in Oklahoma City or outside the boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. There will be opportunities for the audience to ask candidates questions during the forum. The goal is to offer voting citizens the opportunity to make an informed election decision.

For more information, please contact Ruby Harjo at (405) 808 - 6387.

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country: *Kvco-Hvse, "Blackberry Month"*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Haikey Chapel UMC to host Indian Taco Sale

B4 HISTORY

And Still the Waters Run: *A cemetery for Native children*

B7 PEOPLE

Birthday: April Barnett

B8 AD

37th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival

Mvskoke Country: *Kvco-Hvse,* "Blackberry Month"

by James Treat

People of a certain age will remember Uncle Remus and his tales of Br'er Rabbit and other animal characters.

Growing up in the sixties, I enjoyed listening to my parents read stories that had been popularized a generation earlier by Disney's Song of the South, a feature-length musical combining live action with animation. The movie was based on the writings of Joel Chandler Harris, an Atlanta journalist who invented "Uncle Remus" in the 1870s as a narrative device for retelling the folklore he first heard while living on a Georgia plantation during the American Civil War.

Most critics have traced this oral tradition to African roots, but Harris himself acknowledged that the same tales circulated in indigenous American communities: "The Creeks, as well as other tribes, were long in contact with the negroes, some of them were owners of slaves, and it is perhaps in this way that the animal stories became in a measure blended."

More importantly, Harris was familiar with the contemporary work of W. O. Tuggle, a lawyer working for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who collected stories on the side during his visits to Indian Territory. Some of Harris's published tales clearly follow the organization of Tuggle's unpublished drafts, and Tuggle's manuscript was also freely copied in the 1920s by southeastern anthropologist John R. Swanton.

The most popular of the Uncle Remus storylines—and the one I remember best from my childhood—finds Br'er (Brother) Rabbit contending with a "tar-person," a small figure made from pine tree pitch, which Harris calls "the Tar-Baby." Having managed to get himself inextricably stuck to the tar-person, which was fashioned by Br'er Fox for just this purpose, Br'er Rabbit is in quite a fix.

While Br'er Fox debates whether to roast, hang, drown, or skin alive his tricky adversary, Rabbit distracts him with reverse psychology: "I don't keer w'at you do wid me, Brer Fox," says Cufe ("Rabbit"), "but don't fling me in dat brier-patch." Finally tricked into thinking this will be the most painful way for Cufe to die, Br'er Fox "cotch 'im by de behime legs en slung 'im right in de middle er de brier-patch."

There follows "a considerbul flutter" in the thicket, but a short time later Br'er Fox sees Cufe-Laksv ("Liar Rabbit") off in the distance, "settin' cross-legged on a chinkapin log koamin' de pitch outen his har wid a chip," and he hears the Mvskoke trickster call out, "Bred en bawn in a brier-patch, Brer Fox—bred en bawn in a brier-patch!"

Of course, if Br'er Rabbit really is Mvskoke, he probably refers to his birthplace as *kvco vlkat* ("brier patch") whenever he appears in Mvskoke country. *Kvco* is the Mvskoke word for "brier," those thorny, prickly bushes that offer protection from predators for rabbits and other small animals. It's also the name of the final month in *cokv-walv* Mvskoke.

So why is *Kvco-Hvse* generally translated as "Blackberry Month"?

In modern Mvskoke, *kvco* can refer to a brier or to a berry that grows on one. Two of the most common fruit-bearing briers are *kvco-hvlkv*, "dewberry," and *kvco-huerv,* "blackberry." The Mvskoke modifiers describe the growth habit of each plant: dewberries like *hvlkv*, "crawling" along the ground, while blackberries prefer *huerv*, "standing" more upright. A more precise name for "Blackberry Month" today might be *Kvco-Huerv-Hvse.*

But *kvco* and its compounds were used somewhat differently a hundred years ago. The first comprehensive dictionary of the Mvskoke language, published in 1890, defines *kvco* as a "brier" or "blackberry." Another term for the blackberry plant itself was *kvco-huerv*, while another way to specify a quantity of blackberries was *kvco-em-ette*, literally "blackberry, its fruit" (most nouns lack plural forms in Mvskoke, so *kvco* alone could mean "blackberry" or "blackberries," depending on the context). The older word for berries in general was *nak-en-lokce,* literally "thing, its ripe fruit."

So while the modern translations "Brier Month" and "Berry Month" are generally accurate, since the blackberry is indeed a fruit-bearing brier, remembering *Kvco-Hvse* as "Blackberry Month" preserves an older, more precise usage of Mvskoke terminology. Think of it as a symbolic gesture, a small but significant way of honoring Mvskoke forebears who cared enough about this generous plant to name a month for it.

And don't take this lexical slippage as a bad omen. Change is the hallmark of any living language, just as trading stories means recreation for every vital cultural tradition. We may never determine the tribal pedigree of Br'er Rabbit—he is a liar, after all—but we can know for sure that he's one of us, especially when we need the help of a brier patch.

Long live Cufe-Laksv!

Long live Kvco-Hvse!

Long live Mvskoke country.

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments, as well as your suggestions. You can reach me by e-mail at treaty@illinois.edu

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Creek Council House updates hours

Media Release
Creek Nation Council House

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Council House, the historic structure in the heart of downtown Okmulgee, which contains a museum and a gift shop, will be now be open to the public on Thursdays and Fridays only.

"We are still here to serve the public and find that the most visitors we have are on these two days," said David Anderson, Director of the Creek Council House Museum.

The Council House, which was built by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in 1878, housed the Creek government before the federal government forced the sale in 1919 to the city of Okmulgee.

In Nov. 2010 of last year, the tribe was able to re-purchase the Council House.

The hours of operation will be from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., for more information call the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324.

SIAA group exhibition set for June 1-24

Media Release
Five Civilized Tribes Museum

MUSKOGEE — The Five Civilized Tribes Museum, located at 1101 Honor Heights Drive in Muskogee, Okla., will host a group exhibition of artwork by members of the Southeastern Indian Artists Association June 1–24.

The Southeastern Indian Artists Association (formerly the Cherokee Artists Association), a Native American-run not-for-profit organization, is a group of artists and art supporters whose mission is to promote and educate the general public about the arts and artists of tribal peoples. The membership of SEIAA is comprised of many award-winning, professional artists, as well as upandcoming artists and artisans who are committed to creating high-quality works in a wide variety of mediums.

Some of the participating artists in this exhibition include Tony Tiger, Sharon Irla, Shan Goshorn, Troy Jackson, Mike Daniel, Roy Boney, Joseph Erb, Bobby C. Martin, Burt Russell, Verna Bates and others. Their work represents a widely varied sampling of the kinds of work that contemporary Southeastern Indian artists are creating today. Everything from traditional masks to paintings, sculpture and digital media installations will be featured.

SEIAA
Southeastern Indian Artists Association

The Southeastern Indian Artists Association seeks to broaden the scope of what is typically perceived as Native American fine art and promote a better appreciation for the varied intrinsic beauty expressed through Native American culture and art. SEIAA seeks to empower and encourage artists in the development of their artistic careers through meetings, networking and exhibition opportunities. SEIAA is also dedicated to education and the sharing of knowledge through public workshops and presentations. Visit the SEIAA website (www.seiaa.org) to find out more.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Haikey Chapel UMC to host Indian Taco Sale

TULSA — Haikey Chapel will be having a Indian Taco Sale to benefit our youth on June 18, 2011. The cost of the Indian taco is $ 5.00. Our address is 8815 E 101st St., Tulsa.
We will be serving from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Royce Wittman at 918-284-7003.

MCN Head Start now accepting applications

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application. All races and ethnicities may apply.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

MCN Office of Child Care to host Public Hearing

OKMULGEE — A public hearing is scheduled for the Child Care Development Fund, which is administered by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care.

The hearing will begin at 6 p.m., on Tuesday, June 28, 2011 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care, located in the MCN Okmulgee Child Development Center at the Muscogee Creek Nation, Tribal Complex, U.S. Highway 75 and Loop 56.

The Child Development Fund is a program that provides financial assistance for income eligible Muscogee (Creek) and other Native American citizens toward their monthly child care obligations within the MCN service area.

For more information, please contact he MCN Office of Child Care at (918) 732-7663.

CMHI hosting Youth Field Days in June and July

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health Children's Mental Health Initiative will host Youth Field Days in June and July.

Beginning Wednesday June 22, 2011 at the Checotah Indian Community Center from 3-6 p.m., for boys and girls ages 6-13, youth will have the oppurtunity to enjoy healthy and safe activities such as relay races, a water toss, hula hooping and egg spoon races. Free food, drinks and a drawing for an ipod shuffle will also be available.

Wednesday July 6, 2011, events will be held at the Muskogee Indian Community Center from 5-7 p.m.

For more information, please contact MCN CMHI at (918) 224-9307.

Bruner Family Reunion set for July 1-2

LAMAR — The 30th Annual Bruner Family Reunion will begin Friday, July 1, 2011 at 6 p.m., at Middle Creek Baptist Church, in Lamar, Okla.

Family members are asked to bring side dishes and lawn chairs for Sat., July 2 at 10 a.m. A garage sale, games for adults and children, as well as door prizes will be available. Each family is asked to bring a bag of ice and hamburgers and hot dogs will be served at 5 p.m., Saturday evening.

For more information, contact Abbie Larney at (405) 379-8187 or Joyce at (580) 320-5339.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- **Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.**
- **Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.**
- **Live within the State of Oklahoma.**
- **Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.**
- **Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.**
- **Be 18 years or older.**
- **Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.**
- **Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.**
- **Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.**

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

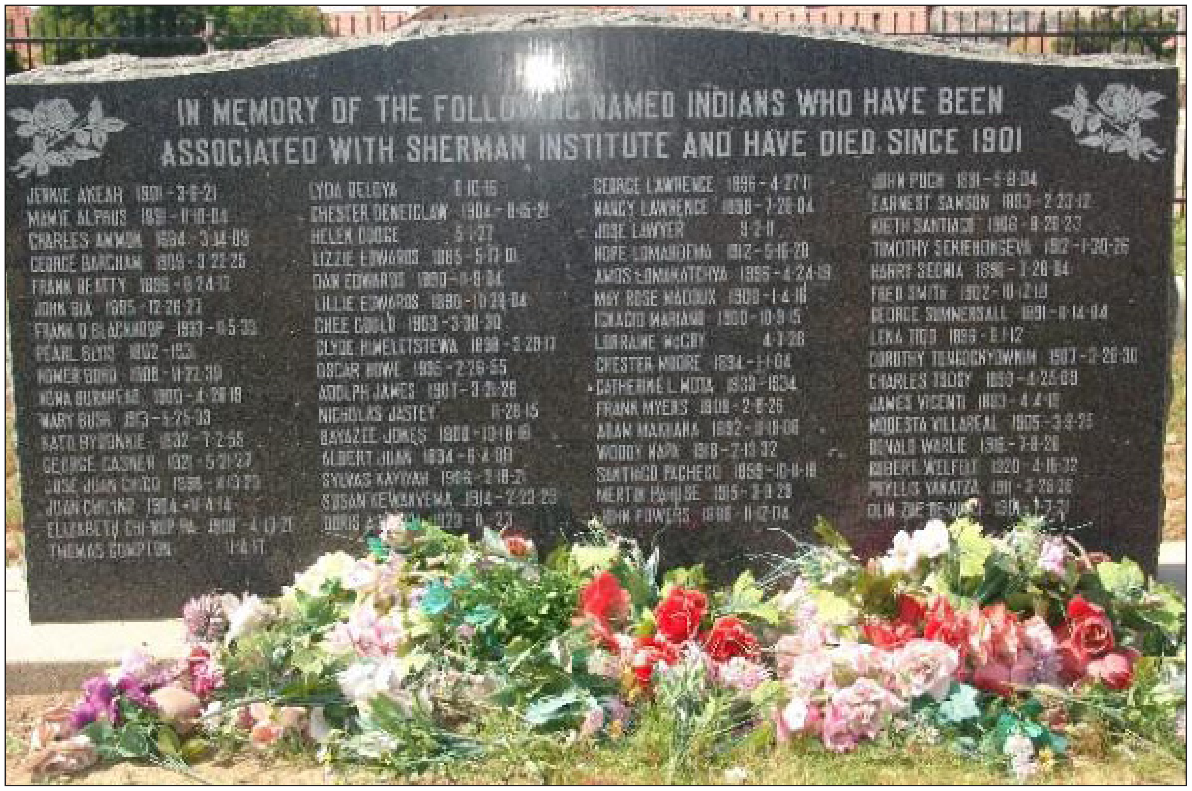
The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

And Still the Waters Run: *A cemetery for Native children*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — Nothing is sadder than a burial ground for children only, especially if it's remote and largely forgotten. Some Americans might be skeptical such sad places even exist. But exist they do, at virtually every Native American boarding school located in the east, west and central regions of this great country.

This month I will tell the story (poignant though it is), of such a place once used by the Sherman Indian Institute (now high school) in Riverside, Calif. The school was first opened in 1899 in tiny Parris, but moved eight years later to the county seat of Riverside, California, which had a better water supply. A nice eighty-acre parcel of land was purchased for the school, with yet another 100+ acres several miles away for a school farm. It was in a place called Home Gardens. In its hay day, there were many hundreds and hundreds of students on campus, with additional names on a waiting list.


IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIANS WHO HAVE BEEN
ASSOCIATED WITH SHERMAN INSTITUTE AND HAVE DIED SINCE 1901

Photos courtesy/*George Windes*

Pictured above is the monument to the Indian children who passed away while attending Sherman Indian Institute located in Riverside, Calif., between the years of 1901-1955. Because parents often had little money and could not afford to ship their children home, the students' bodies were buried at the school (cemetery below).

Because there was never enough money to keep the Sherman Indian Institute running sufficiently, the children were required to provide the labor to the school. Matrons, disciplinarians and teachers supervised students in cleaning/maintaining the facilities, sometimes rather harshly. Perhaps the most controversial aspect of the school program was the "outing system." In it students were sent to work off-campus. Older girls became live-in servants for wealthy white families. Boys lived and worked with local business owners and farmers.

Except for a small allowance, the money earned by the students was given to the school. It was considered to be vocational training and provided cheap labor for those willing to have an Indian live in their homes. The living arrangements were stopped in the 1970s, but the "outing system" continued well into the 1990s. Eventually the students retained their own earned incomes though.

SHERMAN INDIAN SCHOOL CEMETERY

Some of the students lived at the isolated farm in dormitories. They provide the labor to run the farm, which in turn supplied fruits, vegetables and milk to the school. The farm closed in 1946. The property was sold off and some houses were built on the acreage. Today the area is nearly covered with new subdivisions.

As was the reality of the times, periodic outbreaks of influenza, pneumonia and tuberculosis took the lives of students, as did occasional accidents. Parents were either contacted and told they must pay for the shipping of their loved one home (few families had funds to accomplish it), or the body was quickly buried and the family notified after the fact. Deceased students were buried on the south edge of the farm property. The old death records are sketchy, but it appears that between 1904-1955, some 68 students were interned there.

After 1955, the public cemetery in Riverside was utilized and the little graveyard was all but abandoned. Headstones crumbled or were stolen as souvenirs and most people living in the area didn't even know it was there.

Eventually a Muscogee (Creek) principal came to Sherman. Mr. Ken Taylor was a coach, whose leadership to several Sherman school teams (mainly football and track), brought accolades to the school. During his tenure, Ken was made aware of the old cemetery. He had it enclosed with a fence to better protect it and organized students to visit it on "Flower Day" to clean and put flowers up.

Just this year, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis proclaimed 'Ken Taylor Day' in recognition of Taylor's lifelong work on behalf of Native youngsters.

In recent times, the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians of California used a detector to locate the grave sites. They paid for grave markers for the many graves and had a twelve-foot archway built at the cemetery entry. Thus the sacred burial ground is kept in good condition and annually decorated with flowers by students from the school, which currently enrolls 350 students from many different tribes and nations. Several Native citizens have taken it upon themselves to continue the beautification of the cemetery. They are spearheaded by Lorene Sisquoc, Curator and Cultural Tradition Leader at Sherman Indian Museum. Mvto!

I'm reminded of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's sad poem, A Child's Grave:

But God gives patience, Love learns strength and Faith remembers promise. Hope itself can smile at length on other hopes gone from us.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

River Spirit announces Women's Billiards Championships

RIVER SPIRIT
Casino

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Pictured above are tribal and gaming representatives on hand for the announcement of the national Women's Professional Billiards Association Tournament to be held at Tulsa's River Spirit Casino in June. The tournament will bring national exposure to the casino and the City of Tulsa.

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

TILSA — "With a venue the size of that we have at River Spirit, we are able to capture a niche market that the City of Tulsa hasn't had. There are a number of events that are interested in coming to Okla. because of its central location in the United States. That was the case with the U.S. Women's 9-Ball Championship." For Jerry Floyd, General Manager of the River Spirit Casino, that successful combination matched up their facilities, the state's location and the right size entertainment venue.

The casino's Event Center will play host to the Women's Professional Billiards Association Tournament, June 15-19, 2011. The tournament finals will be broadcast nationally on the ESPN sports channel. It will bring 64 of the world's top players to compete over the four day tournament for a $10,000 first prize. Other cash prizes will be awarded down to the 32nd spot.

This will be the events' first visit to Tulsa. Floyd said the Event Center beat out much larger cities because it could offer the right size facility and the areas' love of the sport of billiards. That should translate into an estimated 1,000 spectators a day to watch. There's a large following, there's a tremendous amount of people all over the country. There's a market like that in every city in the country." Hopefully, that crowd will be interested in the gaming opportunities and other entertainment venues at Spirit River, he added.

Local Tulsa promotional groups see a chance for some recognition for the city. Ray Hoyt, senior vice president for VisiTulsa, the convention and visitors program for the Tulsa Metro Chamber said, "Because of River Spirit's wonderful facilities, Tulsa once again will be on the national stage and in front of millions of viewers." On behalf of the casino, Floyd echoes that sentiment, "We partner as often as we can to promote the city."

According to Floyd, ESPN will dedicate seven hours of coverage to the championship. A date for that program has not been announced yet. From the economic standpoint, Floyd expects about $260,000 for the tournament, and he's hoping the casino will see a spike in their activity as well.

Members of the public will get the chance to try out their billiards skills against the pros, with a charity event on Wednesday, June 15. Tickets will be $25 to play in that tournament. Details for the brackets are still be finalized.

This kind of promotion is a first for a Native American enterprise, Floyd said "I don't know that this event has ever been held in Indian country anywhere over the 35 years (of the tournament), so it gives us a unique opportunity."

For more information, please contact Tiffany Ellis at (918) 995-8125, or via e-mail at: tiffany.ellis@riverspirittulsa.com

In DeLaune's Corner: *Meet the MNN sports reporter*

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — My name is Darren DeLaune and I am the new sports reporter for the Muscogee Nation News. I wanted to introduce myself to you, the reader, and tell you a little bit about me.

I am from the Skunk (Kono) Clan and my Tribal Town is Kialegee. I have a little girl named Syeann who is seven years old, but she thinks she is my boss (a majority of the time she is usually right).

My hobbies include anything that my little girl is doing, boxing, basketball and occasionally softball (it is not that I do not like the sport; once seeing me play you will understand why). I have other hobbies, but for sports reporter sake, I will stick to those listed.

I want to explore Muscogee sports and hear about triumphs from individuals and teams. Muscogee and sports are two things that coincide with success.

For the next couple of months, I will delve into sports across Indian country. Also, I will be writing a training diary leading up to my pro debut in August. The diary will share some of the insights and aspects that I will endure to get prepared.

Training Journal: June 1, 2011

DeLaune will be making his pro debut in boxing on August 26, 2011.

This is the first entry in the training diary for my upcoming fight. Technically, I am not in training yet. Training camp does not start for about another week and a half.

For now, I am getting in shape for camp, and the camp will get me ready for the fight. Usually, camp will last about 8-10 weeks. Even for my pro debut, which is only a four-round fight, I do not want to take any chances and I want to be in the best shape possible.

During my training, I do cardio workouts, pushup, crunches, hit the heavy bag, and tons of shadowboxing.

I'll be engaging in the same type of training during camp, but my trainer will have me sparring a lot and working with the focus mitts to make my punches and defense better.

Also, I have friends and supporters (mainly my daughter) who are making sure that I'm doing my workouts. Doing the workouts is not a problem. I love having the support from everyone. And my little girl makes sure I train and she has me doing some interesting workouts, which I will explain in my next entry.

I will be fighting in the Heavyweight division for my pro debut. Usually, fighters have a ranking when they fight, but since this is a pro debut, there will not be a ranking. And to be honest with you, I am not worried about that at all. I want this win and will train and fight to the best of my ability to guarantee that will happen.

Next month, the main training camp will be in full throttle so I'll keep you posted. Until then, take care of yourself

I look forward to hearing your stories. To contact me, please call (918) 732-7703 or e-mail me at ddelaune@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Marty

Continued from B1

"When I heard Sam Proctor had a language preservation class, I told him about my project and he said that he could help in the translation, so he and his class has been translating for me-everyone has had fun in doing this together."

Proctor's class meets every Wednesday morning at 9:30 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Elderly Nutrition Center in Okmulgee. This wasn't the first time that Hicks approached Proctor about a project, the two had also collaborated in translating parts of the Dawes Commission that Hicks was especially interested in.

But what was so interesting about a movie called 'Marty' and its significance to Creek culture?

None, actually, but Hicks explains his reasoning, "'Marty' is actually from a 1955 movie starring Ernest Bourgenine, but originally from a book written by Patty Chayefsky. I thought I would tell a story and I picked other parts from the movie to go with it, especially how two elder ladies relate to each other." Hicks admits its not one of his favorite movies, "but it served what I needed with two elderly ladies talking. I have had to make adjustments. It [the movie] has an Italian setting and is dramatic. Ernest Bourgnenine is not a leading man and in the movie he is not married and can't find anyone. It's about him dealing with his mom and aunt."

Hicks didn't hold an audition, but knew the cast he was looking for and had met Creek citizens in the community that he felt would be ideal for parts and they readily agreed.

"Myrtle Denny plays one of the leading parts, which is an elderly lady as well as Lillian Thomas."

Tera Beaver and James Whitecloud are also part of the cast.

"I have about 15 crew people, prop and makeup, a full-fledged piece!"

Directing is nothing new to Hicks who started out studying Theatre Production at the University of Tulsa then moved to Calif., to study at the American Film Institute in 1979.

Hicks says that he was the only Native American in the prestigious institution during his time there and can only recall one other Creek who has attended there since, Tom Harjo. During his time on the West Coast, Hicks met with other noted Creek actors, particularly Will Sampson, who would help start the American Indian Film Registry, a network that would help Native American actors and others involved in the film industry network.

Since then, Hicks has been involved with numerous productions, both stage and film, and in Feb. 2011 he was honored with a lifetime achievement award by the Skins Film Festival held in Los Angeles.

'Marty' will be performed June 24 and 25 beginning at 4 p.m., at the Creek Nation Elderly Nutrition Center in Okmulgee. There is no admission charge.

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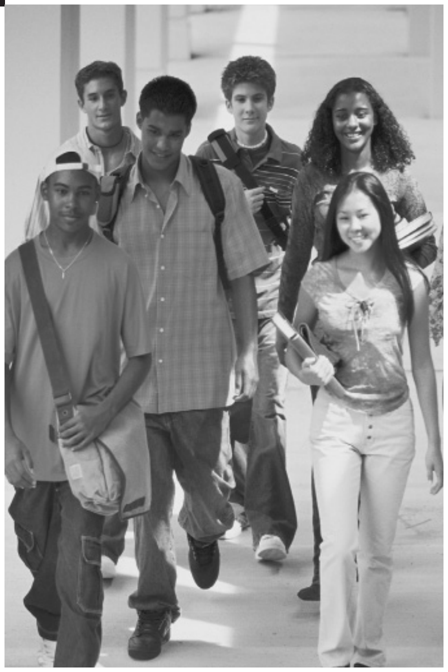

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MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTENTION: MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CIVILIANS

In honor of our Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival
and In Appreciation of Muscogee (Creek) Civilians
Your Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans will be hosting

"MOVIE NIGHT"
(Friday, 24 June 2011)

ALL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CIVILIANS

- Showtime - 2100 Hrs. - Friday, 24 June 2011
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - The 1954 classic "**CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON**" (with Richard Carlson, Julie Adams and Richard Denning)
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - FREE (Adults only)
- Any questions call Delana Hicks at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7744

ACCOMPLISHMENT

TYLER CHRISTIAN TIGER

SILOAM SPRINGS — Siloam Springs High School senior and Creek citizen, Tyler Christian Tiger, signed his letter of intent to play college basketball for Central Baptist College in Conway, Ark.

According to high school coach Johnny Taylor, "Tiger did all of those things that help you build a successful program. Being a great teammate, being a great leader—his defensive efforts were always huge."

In Tiger's four years, he has made two trips to the state semifinals. But more important, Taylor said, "He was a really good teammate and an even greater person." Tiger currently holds a 3.65 GPA and received the Distinguished National Honor Society award. He is also an FCA leader for his school athletics program.

Tiger plans to major in health sciences and pursue a career in the medical field as either a physician assistant or dentistry. He hopes to use his career to work with Natives in the future.

Tyler Tiger is the son of Eric and Lisa Tiger and the grandson of the late Jackson Tiger and Dorcas Tiger of Tiger Mountain. He is also the nephew of Wilma Tiger, A.J. Tiger, and Tony Tiger.

Tiger set his goal of playing college basketball not just for himself. "I want to show other Natives that we can be successful in college athletics and academics. I hope my accomplishments bring honor to my tribe and to all young Natives that desire to reach their dreams."

DREW WILSON

MIDWEST CITY — Drew Wilson recently capped off his outstanding season with a trip to Reno, Nevada, to compete in the Cliff Keen Reno Worlds wrestling tournament. Drew finished with a first place finish at 70lbs Div 4 (12 and under) to win the tournament for the second year in a row.

This accomplishment allowed him to finish the season ranked #1 in the Nation by World of Wrestling and WrestlingUSA and he was named to the World of Wrestling All star team first team at 67lbs division 4 (12 and under). Drew had his best season ever winning the Cliff Keen Kickoff Classic in Nov. 2010, Placing third at Tulsa Nationals in Jan., placing first at United States Junior Open Championships (USJOC) and placing first at Junior High state in the 6-7 grade division in Feb., and first at OKWA state tournament two weeks later to win his third kids' state title.

Drew is a 12-year-old 6th grade student at Monroney Middle school in Midwest City where he is on the Principal's Honor Roll. Drew has been wrestling since he was five years old and wrestles little league for the Edmond Generals where he is coached by Hardell Moore and for his school at Monroney where he is coached by his father Mark Wilson. Drew's parents are Mark (Creek) and Christy Wilson.

Paternal grandparents are Paul Wilson (Creek) of Midwest City and Evelyn Reding of Porum, Okla., and Maternal grand parents are Fred and Mary Robinson of Midwest City, Oklahoma. Drew's Paternal Great Grandparents are the late Ben and Mollie Wilson (Creek) of Holdenville, Oklahoma.

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BIRTHDAYS

APRIL BARNETT

TULSA — April Oskee Barnett turned five April 29, 2011. She celebrated her birthday on May 14, 2011 with a Barbie themed party at Bounce U in Tulsa with her family and friends.

She is the daughter of Stephanie Good Voice and Roger Barnett. Maternal grandparents are Sally (Jones) Good Voice and the late Kenneth Good Voice. Paternal grandparents are Rachel (Wilson) Barnett and the late Joseph Barnett.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Walter and Mary (Yahola) Jones and the late Elias and Keva (Iyotte) Good Voice.

Paternal great grandparents are the late Solomon and Nicey (Tecumseh) Wilson and the late James and Lizzie (Starr) Barnett.

April attends Preston School and is of the Raccoon Clan and Muscogee Creek/Rosebud Sioux tribes.

TALON REDBIRD FISH

TULSA — Talon James Redbird Fish celebrated his first birthday on May 11, 2011 with a party at Kiddie's Lake. Talon's very special cousin Jarron Williams along with friends and family were there to help him celebrate.

Talon is the son of Jimmie Rae Williams of Preston and James Fish of Okmulgee.

His maternal grandparents are Jimmy and Janelle Williams of Preston. His great grandma is Marjorie Bassett.

Paternal grandparents are Archie and Martina French of Tahlequah. His great grandma is Helen Ellig.

Talon is the baby brother to Addison Williams, Brandon and James Fish.

TUSHKA IKIMILHO ADAIR

TULSA — Tushka Ikimilho Adair, Creek, Kiowa, Chickasaw and Cherokee, son of Courtney reader and David Adair, Jr., celebrated his first birthday March 22, 2011.

He is the grandson of Sonya (Reader) Orange, David, Sr., and Mariah Adair.

He is the great gradson of Cliff and Elizabeth (Long) Reader.

Tushka is of the Tiger Clan.

Muscogee Nation

37th annual Festival 2011

Celebrate
Life!

Claude Cox Omniplex Okmulgee, Oklahoma

June 17-19

Basketball 3 on 3 Adult
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June 23

Stomp Dance 7:30 PM

June 24-26

5K Run/Walk
INFR Tour Rodeo
Arts & Crafts
Basketball 3 on 3 Youth
Child Safety Seat Check
Children's Fun Fair
Creek Hymn/Gospel Singing
Farmers' Market
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WIN a 2011 HARLEY DAVIDSON Sportster 1200 Low! Drawing to be held June 25, 2011 during the Festival. Register at the T&R office now. Register at the Claude Cox Omniplex giftshop 6/24-25/11. Tickets are $5 ea. or 5 for $20.

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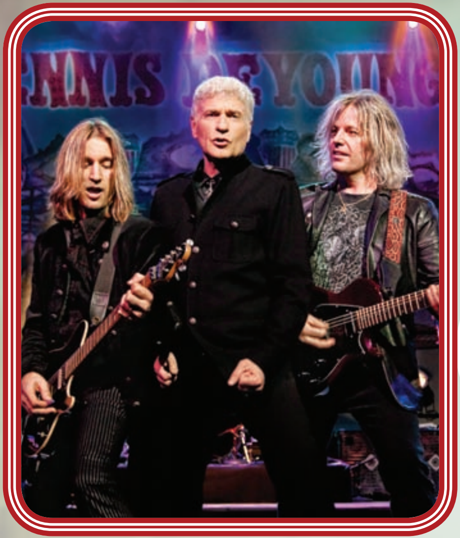

DENNIS DeYOUNG: | 6.25.11
the MUSIC of STYX

FESTIVAL PREVIEW

37th annual Muscogee Nation Festival: Annual stomp dance draws crowds

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

OKMULGEE — As the 37th annual Creek Nation Festival approaches, citizens are marking their calendars to attend their favorite events. Everyone knows that Friday and Saturday are the special nights for the rodeo and concerts and that the softball tournament will last the entire weekend. The Miss Muscogee Nation Pageant has already passed and the royalty will make their way through the festival weekend meeting and greeting everyone.

Every event has its special day and Thursday, the event that 'kicks off' the festival weekend is the Festival Stompdance that will be held on Thursday, June 23 on the grounds of the Creek Nation Complex.

This night helps welcome everyone to the Festival in a special way by encouraging all to participate in a cultural event that is totally Muscogee. As the late afternoon heat slowly subsides to a cool, clear evening, the smell of a campfire fills the area, allowing everyone to appreciate that they are there.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

The annual stomp dance ceremony is a Muscogee (Creek) Festival event that has continued to grow in participation each year. This year's event will be Thursday, June 23, beginning around 7 p.m., on the lawn just south of the Mound Building on the Capitol Complex in Okmulgee, Okla.

David Proctor has been the coordinator of the Festival Stompdance since 2003, and has seen the growth of the event from what seemed an obscure addition of the festival weekend to becoming one of the most important parts of the entire cultural celebration weekend experience.

Proctor recalls when the event was trying to find a home, "The locations were obscure, out by the ball field, in front of the ball field, and the rodeo arena. It was late at night where no one paid attention. I think the location where the dance is held now is a good location and seems to work."

Proctor also wanted to make sure that the stompdance was featured at the right time, which had to be on Thursday, "We wanted to kick off the Festival with stompdance, so we requested the dance to be held that night before the festival so that ceremonial people could be recognized and honored. We have grown every year for the last eight years from 225 participants to over 600."

Proctor said he sees how this event has brought people together, "This dance gives ceremonial people a night to relax, and enjoy themselves. A lot of families that are from out of town can come home and visit and fellowship."

Proctor's reason for coordinating the event was also of a personal interest.

"Personally, for me I felt that ceremonial and traditional people were not being recognized as they should be and this event allows them a night to be recognized," Proctor said.

It is this specific group of people that Proctor would like to especially thank such as members of his family, members of Tallahassee (Wvkokaye) Ceremonial Grounds, RedBird Ceremonial Grounds, Lilly Tyner, Alex Alvarez and the Poarch Band of Creek Indians Youth Council and as Proctor gratefully says, "the many volunteers that make this event a huge success!"

The Creek Nation Festival Stompdance will be held Thursday evening, June 23, beginning around 7 p.m., or when the time of early summer dusk becomes just right, everyone is invited to dance around the fire for a special evening. The event is held on the campus of the Creek Nation Complex just west of the Community Services Building.

$5,000 cash drawing set for June 24

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — A $5,000 cash give-away will take place as part of the 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival.

Entrants must be enrolled Creek citizens and present their tribal citizenship card to register at the Omniplex Gift Shop on Friday, June 24.

There is no pre-registration and it is limited to once a person. The winner will be announced later that evening after 6 p.m.

Raffle tickets to win a 2011 Harley Davidson Sportster 1200 Low motorcycle are available for $5 each or five for $20.

The drawing is open to everyone and winner will be announced and awarded on Saturday, June 25, 2011 after 6 p.m.

Participants need not be present to win.

Commemorative MCN Festival 2011 mugs in four designs are available for purchase for $8 each as well as T-shirts, tank tops and youth shirts in various colors and prices.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival, contact the Tourism & Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979.

FESTIVAL PREVIEW

Saturday, June 11

Royalty Reception - 11 a.m.

OKMULGEE — The 2011 Miss Muscogee and Jr. Miss Muscogee Scholarship Pageant winners will be available for a meet and greet during the Muscogee Royalty Reception Saturday June 11, 2011 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council House Museum beginning at 11 a.m.

This is a great opportunity to show citizens to support for the women that will represent our Nation at many events across the country.

For more information, contact: Virginia Thomas (918) 732-7839 or e-mail: vthomas@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

June 17-19

Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball Tournament

OKMULGEE — The Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball Tournament begins on the evening of Friday, June 17 at 6 p.m., and continues through Sunday, June 19 at 8 a.m., at the Claude Cox Omniplex. Divisions include men, women, and co-ed.

Saturday, June 18

3 on 3 Adult Basketball Tournament - 8 a.m.

OKMULGEE — The Adult 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament will take place at the Claude Cox Omniplex Multipurpose Building beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday, June 18 for ages 19 and over.

Thursday, June 23

Stomp Dance - 7:30 p.m.

OKMULGEE — A Stomp Dance is the official opening of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival. The opening ceremony promises visitors an educational experience and a glimpse of Creek culture brought from the ancestral homelands in what is now the southeastern region of the U.S. All are welcome to join in the dance and fellowship.

The opening ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, June 23, 2011 on the lawn south of the Mound Building at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex.

For more information, contact David Proctor at (918) 756-8504 or dproctor@creeknationhousing.org

June 23 & 25

Traditional Games / Cornstalk Shoot

CVKOTAKSE SECCVLKE
CVKOTAKSE SECCVLKE

OKMULGEE — This is not the origin of modern Indian gaming; however, there will probably be some betting.

Participants will compete in the traditional sports of the Muscogee people and surrounding tribes including a corn stalk shoot using hand-made bows and arrows while dressed in traditional clothing.

The events start on Thursday, June 23 on the lawn west of the Mound Building with the bow shoot range open at noon. This will give participants time to practice and socialize before the traditional corn stalk shoot on Saturday, June 25 at 3 p.m. View traditional skills demonstrations beginning on Friday, June 24 at 9 a.m.

Raffle tickets for traditional rivercane arrows with primitive tips, bow quiver and Creek-style bow are available for $5. Drawing will be held at the bow shoot on Saturday, June 25. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (918) 230-1992.

Friday, June 24

Junior Olympics

OKMULGEE — The Junior Olympics gives our young, Native athletes a chance to show their athletic ability. The Junior Olympics will take place at 8 a.m., Friday, June 24 at Harmon Stadium in Okmulgee.

Join in the excitement as our youth athletes participate in friendly and healthy competition!

Senior Citizen Activities

OKMULGEE — Several special events are planned for Muscogee elders Friday, June 24 beginning at 8 a.m., at Senior Housing, located on Polokse Circle.

Mvskoke elders will enjoy a free lunch, quilt show and contest, jacks competition, horseshoe tournament, bingo and door prizes.

Bring a quart of sofke to be judged at the sofke contest. A Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship card is required to claim all prizes (must be a Muscogee elder to participate.)

For more information, contact: Ivalene Tottress at (918) 549-2561.

Living Legends

OKMULGEE — Created by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, the Living Legends ceremony honors Muscogee (Creek) Citizens who have made significant contributions to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The ceremony takes place on Friday, June 24, 2011 at 5:30 p.m., at the Omniplex Multipurpose Building.

Live Entertainment - Jo Dee Messina - 9 p.m.

OKMULGEE — The free entertainment begins on Friday, June 24 at 9 p.m., with Nashville recording star, Jo Dee Messina.

With hits like "Lesson in Leavin," "Because You Love Me," "Downtime," "Bring On The Rain," "That's The Way" and "Bye, Bye," Jo Dee earned a well-deserved reputation as an electric live performer, becoming one of the first women of country to mount a major headlining tour.

June 24-25

Golf Tournament

CHECOTAH — This year's golf tournament will take place at the Fountainhead Creek Golf Course on the banks of the Eufaula Lake.

The Main Event is slated for Friday, June 24, 8 a.m. This day includes a 4-man scramble, door prizes, gifts bags, lunch, cash prizes, and a $25,000 Hole-In-One!

The action continues on Saturday with another 4-man scramble. Those who register by Monday, June 20 will have the opportunity to play on Thursday, June 23 for $20. Golfers, come prepared for an entire weekend of fierce competition.

For more information, contact: Jerry Kelley (918) 732-7756.

Children's Fun Fair

OKMULGEE — An area that children look forward to every year is the Children's Fun Fair. This family-friendly area consists of numerous activities for children including inflatable rides among other forms of entertainment to entertain children for hours.

The Fun Fair is located just inside the main entry gate of the Claude Cox Omniplex and will be in operation Friday evening, and throughout the day on Saturday.

For more information, contact: Newman Frank at (918) 732-7663 or nfrank@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Farmer's Market

OKMULGEE — Life is sustained through spirituality and food. Both are not merely parts of life, but essential for life itself. The MCN Festival Farmers' Market enables growers throughout our communities to share the fruits and vegetables of their labor with others.

Support local agriculturalists by purchasing some of their locally grown produce. During the Festival, depart from the supermarket produce section and buy home grown.

All booth spaces for the Farmers' Market are free. Spaces will be reserved until filled.

For more information or to reserve your spot, contact Brian On-The-Hill (918) 732-7993 or bonthehill@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Food Vendors

OKMULGEE — Experience all of the food and visual delights the Festival has to offer. Several different food vendors will be on hand so that visitors can indulge in everything from traditional Creek food to hamburgers and hot dogs. A visit isn't complete without having devoured an Indian Taco.

FESTIVAL PREVIEW

Arts & Crafts Vendors

OKMULGEE — Many arts & crafts vendors will have their wares on display and for purchase. Treat yourself to some hand-made jewelry, blankets, traditional Creek clothing, flutes, paintings, and much more…

For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill (918) 732-7993.

Men's and Women's Fast Pitch Softball Tournament

OKMULGEE —Always an exciting event of the Festival is the Men and Women's Fast Pitch Softball Tournament.

Teams from all over the country will compete. This year's action starts on Friday, June 24 at 6 p.m., at the Claude Cox Omniplex. Saturday's and Sunday's games begin at 8 a.m. One team will walk away with the title of "2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Champions!"

All-Indian Rodeo

OKMULGEE — The 38th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Rodeo takes place on June 24-25 beginning at 6:30 p.m., nightly at the Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

This year's event promises to include the excitement and entertainment that Festival Rodeo fans have grown accustomed to. Be a part of the excitement! Event include barrel racing, calf roping, bronco riding, and bull riding.

Saturday, June 25

Youth 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

OKMULGEE — The Youth 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament will take place at the at the new Multipurpose Building in the Claude Cox Omniplex beginning at 8 a.m., Saturday, June 25. Register a team by June 17 to vie for the title championship or support your favorite team by cheering from the stands.

5K Walk and Run

OKMULGEE — Everyone is looking for a way to start living healthier and can begin with the 2011 Festival 5k Walk/Run which will take place on Saturday, June 25 at Highway 75 and Loop 56 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex.

Trophies will be awarded to Overall Male and Female. Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers in each group. Age groups competing in the event begin with 12 and under and progress to 70 and over. This is an excellent opportunity to get the entire family active.

Preregistration is available online for $25 and is available on race day for $35. Community Walking Program participants are $15.

For more information, contact Chris Azbell at (918) 758-1400 or cazbell@mcndistrictcourt.com

Horseshoe Tournament

OKMULGEE — This year's Horseshoe Tournament tournament will be held Saturday, June 25 starting at 8 a.m., on the Claude Cox Omniplex grounds.

There will be a singles event and a doubles event. Players should bring their own shoes. No modified horseshoes are allowed. Partners will be drawn for the doubles competition. The tournament will be double elimination with 21 throws per game. Participants may pre-register or register on-site.

For more information, contact Jackson Barnett at (918) 732-7723.

Volleyball Tournament

OKMULGEE — The annual athletically challenging co-ed volley ball tournament begins at 9 a.m., Saturday, June 25 at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

Registration is open until June 17. The tournament is pool play. Teams are required to have an 8-person roster. Games are played rally point to 21 for the first two matches and rally point to 15 if there is a third match. Winning team must win by two, cap at 25.

For more information, please contact: Denise Honawa (918) 732-7976 or dhonawa@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Child Safety Seat Check

OKMULGEE — Have the condition of your child safety seat checked in the parking lot along Loop 56 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex.

Creek Nation Health will provide this service Saturday, June 25 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

For more information, contact: Nina Creason (918) 591-5733 or nina.creason@creekhealth.org

Creek Council House Indian Art Festival

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum, in historic Downtown Okmulgee, will host the annual Indian Art Festival that has become a favorite event for those that attend the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival.

In conjunction with the juried art competition, other events will take place on the museum lawn on Saturday, June 25 from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., including make and take art for children and a quality Native American art market on the museum lawn.

Native American artists from all over the country will showcase their art in the formats of paint, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, photography, and much more.

For more information, contact David Anderson at the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324.

Festival Parade

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Parade will take place on Main Street (6th Street) in Downtown Okmulgee and proceed on a route passing directly in front of the Creek Council House Museum beginning at 10 a.m.

Enjoy a procession that promises a wide array of floats depicting Muscogee (Creek) culture both modern and traditional along with area high school marching bands and the Pride of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Melinda Deeringwater at (918) 759-4172.

Mvskoke Hymn / Gospel Singing

OKMULGEE — The annual Muscogee Hymn Singing will be held in conjunction with the Gospel Singing. The singing will be held from 2- 6 p.m.

This event is a great opportunity to hear the traditional Christian hymns of the Muscogee people and witness one of the dearest facets of the Muscogee culture. This year's event promises some great southern gospel and contemporary singing that will be entertaining as well as inspirational. Experience great fellowship and uplifting music in the same setting.

For more information, contact: MCN Tourism & Recreation (918) 732-7992.

Live Entertainment - The Plateros - 7 p.m.

OKMULGEE — The free entertainment continues Saturday at 7 p.m., with the Plateros. For generations since the late 50s, Plateros have been known for singing and being musicians within the Tohajiilee Indian Reservation in the Eastern Agency of the Navajo Nation. The young band's web site declares that their performance is filled with some amazing energy with a mixture of blues, rock, funk and gospel.

Live Entertainment - Dennis DeYoung - 9 p.m.

DENNIS DEYOUNG

OKMULGEE — Saturday's lineup concludes with a performance by Dennis DeYoung and the Music of Styx.

Styx has sold over35 million albums worldwide and DeYoung has written eight of their nine top 10 singles. Styx was the only band to ever record four consecutive triple platinum albums.

For over four decades, DeYoung has been a singer, songwriter, keyboardist and record producer. He wrote and sang several classics including: "Lady", "Come SailAway", "Best of Times", "Mr. Roboto" and the 1979 People's Choice Award winner, "Babe."

Note: All events unless otherwise noted will take place at the Claude Cox Omniplex and Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena (behind MCN Travel Plaza/Burger King, NW corner of HWY 75 & SH-56 Loop Intersection—Okmulgee, Ok). Shuttle Parking will be available at Housing & East of the Mound Building.

Fore more information, contact Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7992.

FESTIVAL PREVIEW

Office Use Only

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FESTIVAL
5K RUN/WALK

Muscogee Nation
Festival
37th annual
2011
Celebrate Life!

DATE
June 25, 2011

TIME
Race begins at 08:00 A.M.

LOCATION
MCN Capital Complex
Hwy 75 & Loop 56
Okmulgee, OK 74447
• Registration and Packet Pickup
- East of Mound Building

5K RUN/WALK
Pre-registration: $25.00 Entry Fee
Race Day Registration: $35 Entry Fee
Community Walking Program Participants: $15.00 Entry Fee

RACE INFORMATION

- *Limited Number of Shirts Available for 5K Run/Walk Participants*
- **Pendleton Blankets** Awarded to Overall Male & Female
- Culturally Designed Completion Medallions Available for all Participants
- USATF Certified & Sanctioned

Register Online:
www.themuscogeecreeknation.com
Click on Festival Events (List of 2011 Events)
Scroll Down and click on **5K Run**

Register by Mail:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival 5K Run
Attn: Christopher Azbell
P.O. Box 652
Okmulgee, OK 74447
Cash, Cashier's Check or Money Order Accepted for Mail-In Registrations
No personal checks

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CHRISTOPHER AZBELL
Phone: 918-758-1400
E-mail: cazbell@mcndistrictcourt.com

Farewell from 2010 Miss Muscogee Tusa Beaver

Tusa Beaver
2010-2011 Miss Muscogee Nation

OKMULGEE — Estonko,

I would like to thank Chief Ellis, the National Council, the pageant committee, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for this wonderful opportunity to serve as an ambassador for the Muscogee Nation. I have greatly enjoyed this year. I did not realize just how much I would be impacted by this title. I have gained many new friends and even more insight as to what my culture holds for the people who seek to find out more about it. I would like to say thank you to the many people who have helped me throughout the year. I am so grateful for your friendship.

Miss Muscogee (C
Nation

When I first started the year, I was a little unsure of what the year had in store for me. I was a little rusty on my public speaking skills and still a bit timid. Holding this title has pushed me out of my comfort zone as far as speaking to crowds, but it allowed me to work as I am comfortable doing—among the people. Ashleigh and I usually had a schedule to stick to and I was often reminded of a saying: "To be early is to be on time—to be on time is to be late." It just reminded me that punctuality is important. I was also reminded of the importance of responsibility, serving elders, and many other things I was taught growing up.

As a final note, I would like to encourage the many young women out there that might be considering running for Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I was in this position at one time, but thanks to a teacher who saw the potential that I had, I was soon filling out an application for the pageant. I would have missed out on this amazing opportunity if it were not for this teacher pushing me to at least give it a try. Try your hardest and go for it. Who knows, it may be one of you that are writing an article like this a year from now.

Again I would like to thank the Nation for supporting Ashleigh and me. We appreciate all the help and support.

Mvto.

- Tusa Beaver
2010-2011 Miss Muscogee

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

July 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 10

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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Multipurpose Dome is done

• Ellis gives final State of the Nation address

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Pictured above are Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, National Council Speaker Roger Barnett and Rep. Sam Alexander at the ribbon-cutting event for the new Multipurpose Building located on the Claude Cox Omniplex grounds.

Staff
Muscogee Nation News

OKMULGEE — It opened with the traditional posting of the colors and a prayer, to serve as a showplace for Muscogee tribal activities, sports and entertainment.

The Grand Opening for the New Multipurpose Building located at the Claude Cox Omniplex grounds, hosted both the Living Legends Ceremony and State of the Nation Address by Principal Chief A.D Ellis.

The program included a special tribute to the late Second Chief Shelly Crow and a video of the Ellis administration's accomplishments.

The $4 million project is more than 20,000 square feet with 160-foot diameter. The structure was built as a Monolithic Dome to used as an event center for various activities. It includes spectator seating, classrooms, concessions and several multi-use areas.

Inside the new Multi-purpose center, Principal A.D. Ellis delivered his final State of the Nation address at the 37th Annual Muscogee (Creek) festival.

SEE STATE - A8

California Muscogee Creek gathering set for Aug. 6

Media Release
California Creek Association

ANAHEIM, Calif., — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association is pleased to announce the 2011 gathering of California's Creek Indians Aug. 6, 2011 at the American Indian United Methodist Church in Anaheim, Calif., from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The church is located at 800 South Street in Anaheim.

During the meeting, there will be a candidate forum for those running in the upcoming 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Primary Election set for Sept. 17.

Informational booths detailing citizen services such as voter registration and language will also be available on-site for attendees of the gathering.

For more information, call (760) 534-1632.

Candidate filing set for July 18-20

Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — July is the official month to file to be a candidate for office in the upcoming Muscogee (Creek) Nation election. Candidates are unofficial until they have filed with the MCN Election Board office during the filing dates.

"People can announce that they're going to run for Chief, but it's not official until the filing dates," said Nettie Harjo, Election Board Manager.

The dates to file for the election are July 18-20 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., each day. Candidates' photos to be feautured in the upcoming election preview edition will be taken at this time.

Aside from candidate filing, the election office will continue taking absentee and precinct voter registration.

Voter registration will be open until Sep. 7, 2011 and absentee voter registration closes Aug. 25 at 5 p.m. The primary election is set for Sep.17

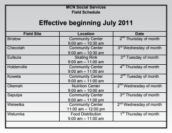
SEE ELECTION - A3

A2 LEGAL
Legal Notice: GD 2011-17

A3 LEGAL
Legal Notice: CV 2011-78

A4 CAPITOL NEWS
Veterans' Scoop

A6 SOCIAL SERVICES
Social Services July Field Schedule



A7 COMMUNITY
Sapulpa Elders Honored

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from April 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011 are as follows:

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Anne West v. Michael West	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Ada Baldridge v. Daryl Bassett	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Seana Stephens v. Jerry Stephens	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kristen Roberts v. Jason Warrior	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Ashley Whitmore v. Nicholas Durant	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Candy Sadler v. Marcus Lawrence	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kendra Rutledge v. Terry Jimboy	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Davana Powell v. Brandon Pigeon	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Kimberly Harjo	Ct. 1: Theft

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Jodie Fees	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Lee Benton	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Phillip Mills	Ct. 1: Theft

Traffic:

MCN v. Leon Hamilton	DUS
MCN v. Sheila Haywood	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Joseph Johnson	No Insurance
MCN v. Lesha Deere-Turney	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Issac Tiger	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Skirmante Thompson	DUS
MCN v. James Bentz	Possession of Marijuana
MCN v. Ivan McPeak	DUS
MCN v. Ashley Stutchmam	Trespass
MCN v. Christopher Logan	No Driver's License
MCN v. Delilah Leach	DUS
MCN v. Crystal Brown	No Insurance
MCN v. Crystal Brown	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jacob Amann	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jesse Kent	DUS

Marriage Licenses:

Patricia Buckner and Glenn Cenkovich	Marriage License
Kenneth Joslin and Lisa Sanders	Marriage License
Erik Ishmael and Kara Osborne	Marriage License

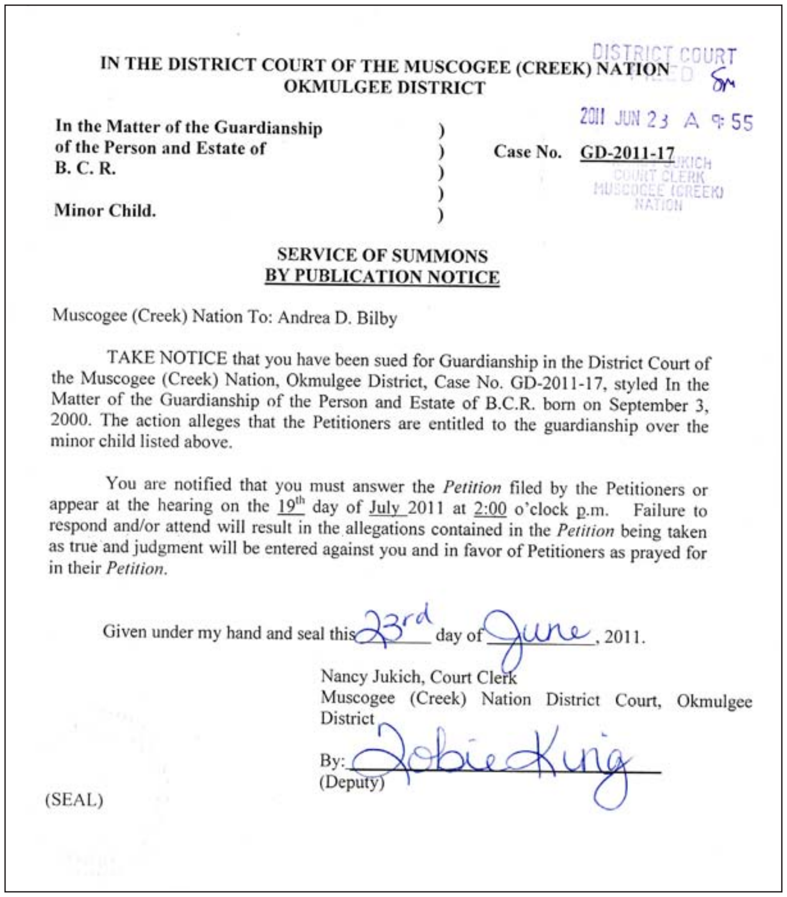
The District Court filings from May 1, 2011 through May 31, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Liberty Finance v. Taryn McCargo	Small Claims
Roy Harris Jr., v. Emily Rasmussen	Petition
Dixie Finance v. Taryn McCargo	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Steve Lowe	Small Claims
Liberty Finance v. Katherine Willie	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Cerena Gray	Small Claims
LVNV Funding, LLC., v. Carey Colvin	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Melissa George	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Crystal Baldridge	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Cecily Dickson-Varela	Foreign Judgment
Pamela Sue Miller v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation d/b/a Creek Nation Casino	Petition
Jeffrey Williams v. Kimberly Lindsey	Petition
Progressive Car Insurance v. Stephanie Dowling	Foreign Judgment
Linda Jeffers v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation and River Spirit Casinos	Petition
Brittany McGuire v. Michael Delaney	Petition

Divorce:

Patsy Hedge v. James McDaniel	Divorce
Jacqueline Gibbs v. Ira Gibbs	Divorce
Heidi George v. Christopher George	Divorce
Cristina Stange v. Clinton Stange	Divorce
Joshua Birdcreek v. Stephanie Birdcreek	Divorce
Robert Solomon v. Leah Solomon	Divorce
Susan Denton v. Joseph Denton	Divorce
Deanna Gutierrez v. Vincent Gutierrez	Divorce
Marcia Cozart v. Galen Cozart	Divorce



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 JUN 23 A 9:55
[illegible] JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Person and Estate of) Case No. GD-2011-17
B. C. R.)
)
Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Andrea D. Bilby

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD-2011-17, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of B.C.R. born on September 3, 2000. The action alleges that the Petitioners are entitled to the guardianship over the minor child listed above.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioners or appear at the hearing on the 19th day of July 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioners as prayed for in their *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 23rd day of June, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Election

Continued from A1

Only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the Election Board will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections.

"We do encourage a lot of people to go absentee because emergencies may be happening or you happen to have something else to do on that day," Harjo said.

Absentee Ballots will be mailed Oct. 17, 2011.

Precinct registration closes Oct. 26, 2011.

General Election will be held Nov. 5, 2011, followed by Election protest week Nov. 7-11, 2011.

Candidate eligibility for Principal Chief and Second Chief:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 30 years old upon filing
- Legal resident within jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing
- Filing fees for Principal Chief are $550 and $425 for Second Chief - cashier's check or money order only

Candidate eligibility for National Council Representative:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 18 years and older
- Must be a legal resident of his/her district one (1) full calendar year
- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)
- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months
- Employees must take leave before filing

Article VI Section 2(b), when the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

When filing please have the following documents:

- Tribal enrollment card
- MCN voter card
- Cashier's check or money order for $200 filing fee

Verification of residence; candidates will need two (2) of the following:

- Income tax return for the preceding year
- Homestead exemption or copy of property tax
- Copy of house deed or statement from Creek Housing Authority containing dates of residency
- If renting; a notarized statement form the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord's address and phone number
- Utility bill in candidate's name
- Driver's License (with current address)

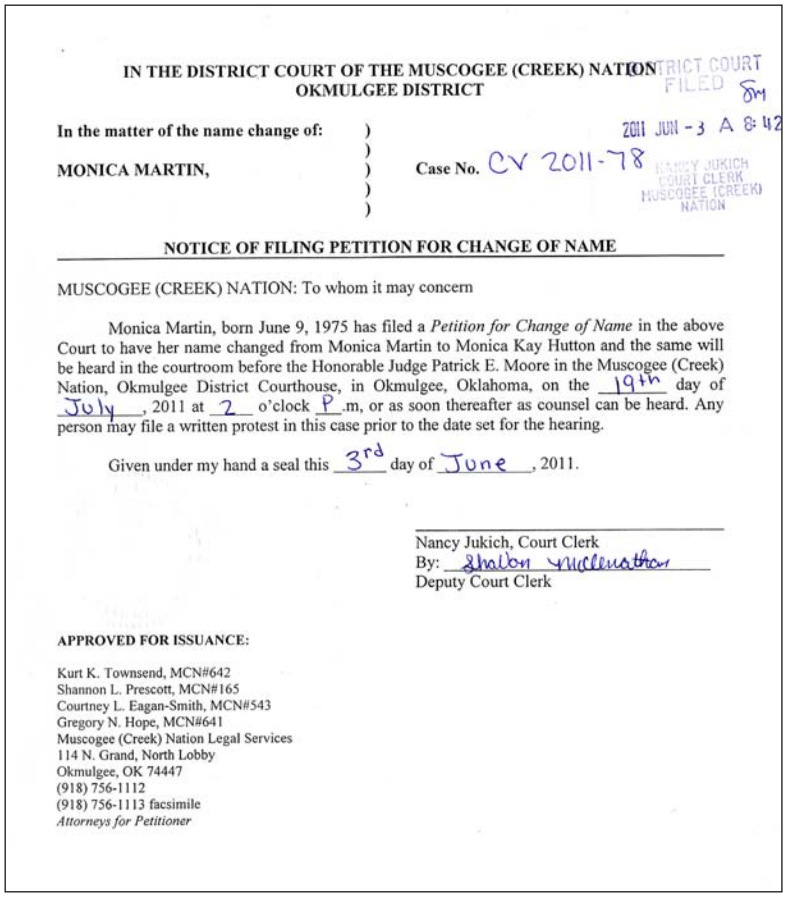
(Address must be the same on all documents)

In order to provide citizens with an overview of each candidate's platform, the Muscogee Nation News will provide each candidate the opportunity to share their vision for the Nation's future via candidate profiles.

Profiles will be featured in the upcoming August edition of the *Muscogee Nation News* and should be 150 words or less. All candidates should include name, district, age, clan, tribal town, church, ceremonial ground, education and any relevant experience.

Submissions will be accepted via e-mail at: gfife@muscogeenation-nsn.gov, or mail information to:
MCN Communications
c/o Gary Fife
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732-7631.



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 JUN -3 A 8:42
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the matter of the name change of:)
)
MONICA MARTIN,) **Case No.** CV 2011-78
)
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION: To whom it may concern

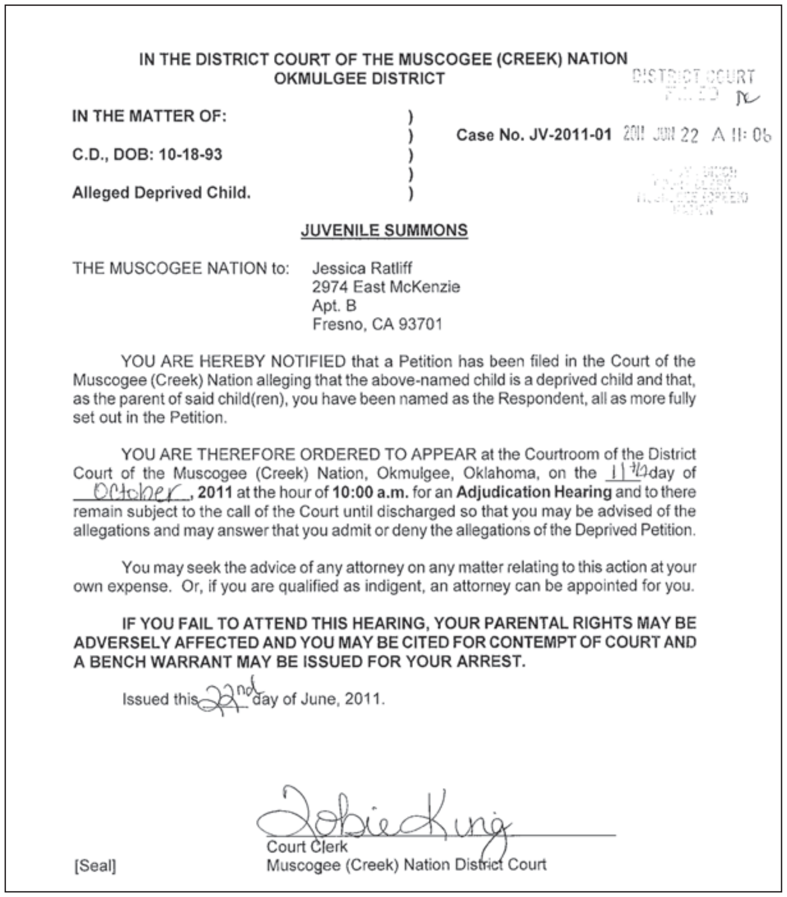
Monica Martin, born June 9, 1975 has filed a *Petition for Change of Name* in the above Court to have her name changed from Monica Martin to Monica Kay Hutton and the same will be heard in the courtroom before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 19th day of July, 2011 at 2 o'clock P.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 3rd day of June, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Shalon Mcclenathan
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 JUN 22 A 11:06

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2011-01**
C.D., DOB: 10-18-93)
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to:
Jessica Ratliff
2974 East McKenzie
Apt. B
Fresno, CA 93701

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 11th day of October, **2011** at the hour of **10:00 a.m.** for an **Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 22nd day of June, 2011.

Tobie King
Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

[Seal]

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko!

Whew! Was it just me or was that the best festival to date? I was impressed with the upgrades to many of the facilities, the organization of staff members and the general flow of every event I photographed.

Although one of my main priorities was trying not to pass out from the heat, my job took me on a whirlwind tour of many of the activities that make this weekend a great time to be Mvskoke.

If you had a chance to attend any of the events or activities, I challenge you to find one where there WASN'T a presence of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police officers.

I'd also like to tip my hat to MCN Tourism & Recreation. Brian On-The-Hill, as I said earlier, this event couldn't have gone more smoothly (if there were bumps in the road, I certainly didn't notice).

After the crowds dispersed from the new Multipurpose Building, there was quite a bit of of trash left in the seating area. I'm sure there was someone else who could have volunteered, and whom did I see but William Lowe, Director of T&R, filling trash bags. It just goes to show some MCN staff will tackle any job that needs doing, no matter how big or small.

Mvto to all the volunteers and staff for your service!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop:

Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans and Agent Orange

Staff
Veterans Affairs Services Office

WASHINGTON, D.C., — In response to concerns raised by Veterans, VA requested the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to study Blue Water Vietnam Veterans and Agent Orange exposure. The report was publicly released on May 20, 2011. The Department and Secretary will carefully review the findings and ensure VA fulfills its mission to provide our nation's Veterans with the highest quality healthcare and benefits.

This study was an additional step following the Secretary's decision in 2010 to add three new presumptive conditions (Ischemic Heart disease, Parkinson's, and B-cell Leukemia) related to exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange based on a scientific review conducted by IOM in accordance with the Agent Orange Act of 1991. VA expanded the list of health problems the agency presumed to be related to exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange to fourteen conditions. These presumptions were extended to thousands of Servicemembers who may have been exposed to Agent Orange on land or inland waterways, also known as Brown Water.

Blue Water Veterans are Veterans who served on open sea ships off the shore of Vietnam during the Vietnam War. Currently, Blue Water Veterans who did not set foot in Vietnam or serve aboard ships that operated on the inland waterways of Vietnam must provide evidence that they were exposed to herbicides during military service in order to receive disability compensation for diseases associated with Agent Orange exposure. VA asked IOM to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the potential for herbicide exposure among Blue Water Vietnam Veterans to ensure they are receiving the best possible health care and services.

More information on Blue Water Navy Veterans, potential exposure to Agent Orange, and the services available to them from VA on the VHA website: http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/bluewaterveterans.asp

The Veterans' Scoop features articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Department of Veterans Affairs

Bristow Indian Community to elect officers July 9

Media Release
MCN CR&D

BRISTOW — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has satisfied the Bristow Indian Community's debt and penalty fees with the Internal Revenue Service. With the IRS audit being settled, Chief Ellis has directed the appropriate MCN Departments and Agencies to implement a plan of action to release the Bristow Indian Community from Proclamation.

The first step in this plan is to conduct Election for Community Officers. The Community was unable to elect a full board in October 2010. Recently two dates were set for filing for the Board positions. The first was May 27th and June 24th, unfortunately both dates passed without a filing for the Vice-Chairman position. Therefore, the filing period will continue to be open until candidates have filing for all three offices. An election will be scheduled and held after all positions have candidates.

At this time filing for Chairman is; Charlie Simmers and filing for Secretary/Treasurer is Rachel Little.

After the election is held the new Community Board Officers will received training from the Community Research & Development Staff, Internal Auditor, and Community Finance Officer and other appropriate Departments/Offices of the Nation. We will work directly with the Board to ensure that they have a full understanding and accountability in accordance with the requirements of Title 11.

The Proclamation will be lifted, only after the Board has demonstrated their understanding of Title 11, and of all required Policies and Procedures.

In order to be eligible to vote, you must be a member of the Bristow Indian Community, be 18 years of age and reside within the Community boundaries. Please bring photo identification so that you can be properly identified i.e. driver's license or Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card. Failure to provide identification will prevent you from casting a vote.

To be eligible to file for office you must be a member of the Bristow Indian Community, be 18 years of age and reside within the Community boundaries, and be a full citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. A full citizens is one quarter (1/4) or more blood quantum.

Any individual that intends to have their name on the ballot must submit a letter of intent and a background check form. Background check forms may be picked up at the Bristow Smoke Shop or the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Elderly Nutrition Center.

Letters of intent should state the position the individual is seeking and contact information. Letters of intent and background forms shall be mailed or hand-delivered to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Community Research and Development.

The mailing address is as follows:

MCN Community Research and Development
Att: Anita Freeman
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, Ok 74447

Candidates should be aware that the term of office will begin immediately upon the final announcement of the winners and continue until the regular election that will be held in October 2012, in accordance with the Community's current policies and procedures.

This election will constitute the beginning of the transfer of the community back to the hands of its members. The elected officers must be prepared for an intense amount of work and dedication. The officers will be working closely with many departments of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation during this transition period.

Title 11 §6-204A states that an elected official of the community may not be employed by any of the community enterprises. Individuals who are currently employed at the Bristow Smokeshop may be placed on the ballot with the understanding that they must resign their employment if elected.

In order to provide for fair representation, individuals who are related in the following manner may not hold office during the same term.

This restriction shall apply to: spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, niece, nephew, uncle, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, stepsister, stepdaughter or stepson.

Multiple family members may be placed on the ballot with the understanding that only one may serve as an officer. The family will have to decide amongst itself who will serve as an officer; the other elected family members must resign. If this creates open positions, the candidate with the next highest votes shall be determined the winner.

Keepseagle settlement information

OKMULGEE — A $760 million settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been reached in the *Keepseagle v. Vilsack* class action lawsuit.

The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans by denying them equal access to credit in the USDA Farm Loan Program.

The lawsuit claims that the USDA denied thousands of Native American farmers and ranchers the same opportunities to get farm loans or loan servicing that were given to white farmers and ranchers.

You may be eligible for a payment of up to $50,000 or more and forgiveness of some or all outstanding USDA loans if you qualify as a class member.

The Class includes all Native American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch between Jan. 1, 1981 and Nov. 24, 1999; and
- Sought, or attempted to seek, a farm loan from the USDA during that period; and
- Complained about discrimination to the USDA orally or in writing on their own or through a representative, such as a tribal government, during that same time period.

A schedule of meetings for the month of July that will be held to assist class members with submitting Track A claims is located on this page as requested by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Trust Services

For more information check out the Keepseagle v. Vilsack settlement Web site at indianfarmersclass.com

Date	Time	Location
7/6/2011	9:00AM	Fort Peck Community College; 301 Benton Street, Wolf Point, MT
7/6/2011	9:00AM	Cankdeska Cikana (Little Hoop) Comm College; 214 1st Ave., Fort Totten, ND
7/6/2011	9:00AM	Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Inst; 9169 Coors Blvd. Albuquerque, NM
7/6/2011	9:00AM	Caddo Cultural Center (Tribal Bldg); U.S. 281, Binger, OK (Intersection of Highways 281 and 152)
7/7/2011	9:00AM	Fort Peck Community College; 301 Benton Street, Wolf Point, MT
7/7/2011	9:00AM	Cankdeska Cikana (Little Hoop) Comm College; 214 1st Ave., Fort Totten, ND
7/7/2011	9:00AM	Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Inst; 9169 Coors Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM
7/7/2011	9:00AM	Caddo Cultural Center (Tribal Bldg); U.S. 281, Binger, OK
7/12/2011	9:00AM	Navajo Nation Museum; Hwy 264, and Loop Road, Window Rock, AZ
7/12/2011	9:00AM	Little Big Horn College; 1 Forestry Lane, Crow Agency, MT
7/12/2011	9:00AM	Lowrys Farm, 8879 US Hwy 74W., Pembroke, NC
7/12/2011	9:00AM	TBA New Town ND
7/12/2011	9:00AM	Comanche Nation College; 1608 Southwest 9th Street Lawton, OK
7/13/2011	9:00AM	Navajo Nation Museum; Hwy 264, and Loop Road, Window Rock, AZ
7/13/2011	9:00AM	Little Big Horn College; 1 Forestry Lane, Crow Agency, MT
7/13/2011	9:00AM	Lowrys Farm, 8879 US Hwy 74W., Pembroke, NC
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7/14/2011	9:00AM	Little Big Horn College; 1 Forestry Lane, Crow Agency, MT
7/14/2011	9:00AM	Lowrys Farm, 8879 US Hwy 74W., Pembroke, NC
7/14/2011	9:00AM	Ft Berthold Community College; 220 8th Ave. N. / PO. Box 490 New Town, ND
7/14/2011	9:00AM	Comanche Nation College; 1608 Southwest 9th Street Lawton, OK
7/19/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/19/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/19/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/19/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/20/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/20/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/20/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/20/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/21/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/21/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/19/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/19/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/20/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/20/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/20/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/20/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/21/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/21/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/21/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/21/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/26/2011	9:00AM	Calhoun Community College; 6250 US Highway 31, Tanner, AL
7/26/2011	9:00AM	Dine' College-Tuba City; Hwy. 160 Edgewater Dr. Tuba City, AZ
7/26/2011	9:00AM	Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes; 200 E White Rabbit Rd El Reno, OK
7/26/2011	9:00AM	HVJ Lakota Cultural Center; Hwy 212 East Eagle Butte, SD
7/27/2011	9:00AM	Calhoun Community College; 6250 US Highway 31, Tanner, AL
7/27/2011	9:00AM	Dine' College-Tuba City; Hwy. 160 Edgewater Dr. Tuba City, AZ
7/27/2011	9:00AM	Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes; 200 E White Rabbit Rd El Reno, OK
7/27/2011	9:00AM	HVJ Lakota Cultural Center; Hwy 212 East Eagle Butte, SD

If you are a Native American Farmer

or the heir of one who was denied a

USDA farm loan or loan servicing

between 1981 and late 1999,

You can get up to $50,000 or more from a $760 million class action settlement.

To receive a payment you must file a claim by December 27, 2011.

For more information about the Keepseagle Settlement and how to file a claim:

call 1-888-233-5506
or visit www.IndianFarmClass.com.

Social Services aids elder citizens in 'beating the heat'

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Pictured above are the few air conditioners remaining in the Social Services storage shed.

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — It's only the beginning of the hot Oklahoma summer and already the temperatures have been pushing the three-digit mark in some places. 100 plus degree weather is nothing new to Oklahomans, but there is some relief for eligible Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

The Social Services Department has been giving single room window unit air conditioners to Muscogee members who are enrolled, 60 years of age or medically needy. They will provide a unit to eligible Creeks haven't any or have inadequate air conditioning in their homes. Julie Langston, Social Services Manager, describes how they can help, "It's intended to give them some type of relief from the heat. The program runs from May to September, but the busiest time are June, July and August. Langston says the program applicants tend to be the older people, " We get all age ranges. Typically, it's designed for elders, 60 and older because they're a vulnerable population. But, another vulnerable population are small children or people with respiratory illnesses. So, we serve a lot of that population, as well."

The air conditioners are not designed to cool an entire house, she says. 8,000 BTUs and 10,000 BTUs size units are available, "Depending on the need in the home, where they need the most relief. It's supposed to be for those without any at all, so we'll try to do a 10,000 unit in a living room area in a large area. But, sometimes they'll have one in a living but they don't have one the bedroom. It can be very difficult to sleep at night when it's so hot, so maybe we'll try to put in a smaller one like a 5,000 or 8,000 unit. Sometimes, we have the 5,000 BTU unit."

The need for this service has been growing for the past several years. Langston thinks an aging population is responsible for that growth, "It seems like each year it grows a little bit. I think we get the word out and maybe more people find out about it. Since it is a program for elders, I think that's a growing population. More Creeks are turning 60 and older, so there's just more people to serve in that age range." This year, the storage unit for the air conditioners has a lot of empty space because of demand.

The air conditioner distribution program is fully funded by the Creek tribal government. This year, they receive $36,000 to help citizens deal with the heat. Enough, Langston says, to get them through the hot season.

Information regarding the air conditioner program and applications is available on the tribal website or by calling Social Services at: 918-549-2445 or Toll Free 1-800-482-1979.

MCN School Clothing Program applications now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, will be accepting applications for school clothing beginning Monday, May 2, 2011. Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of October 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek Citizen students no matter where you live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program consist of:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least 3 years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be 4 years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade. All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.
- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200.00. (Example: If you received $400.00 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350.00, you will be eligible to receive $200.00.) Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.00.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.
- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center.
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center.
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447. Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

Elders honored by Sapulpa Community

• Holder and Coon recognized during Older Americans Month

Ann Holder
Phillip W. Coon

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Pictured above are Ann Holder and Phillip W. Coon, honorees of the Sapulpa Indian Community during Older Americans Month.

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

SAPULPA — Wednesday, May 18, the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community (SCIC) celebrated Older Native Americans Month by honoring the oldest Sapulpa Creek Man and Woman, SCIC members who are at least 75 years of age and the volunteers who keep the center operating.

According to Jo Anna Fixico, SCIC Chair, "We are pleased to that the Sapulpa Indian Community honors Ann Holder and Phillip W. Coon. Holder is of Euchee descent, and Coon is full-blood Creek. Both are Creek citizens who were born on the same day – March 28, 1919."

In recognition of all the honorees, Fixico said, "It is sometimes the last opportunity for us to validate our elders, to recognize their words of wisdom and encouragement. It gives a chance for them to pass on tradition and values, and for us to acknowledge them to the outside world. Elders are often overlooked by that world. It's our chance to honor them with tribal tradition."

In 2006, the celebration of Older Native Americans Month began with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Elderly Nutrition Program. The month-long celebration honors the elders who have a positive influence and who have made contributions that enrich the lives of the Sapulpa Indian Community. The celebration coincides with May's national observance of Older Americans Month.

Over the years, Holder has done much civic work which includes a six-year stint during the 1980s as the Secretary for the Native American Church (NAC), established in 1918. She has been a member of the NAC since 1960. During the 1980s, she also served on the Board of Directors of the Sapulpa Indian Community as Secretary, and a term as its Chairman.

Holder is a lifelong member of the Polecat Ceremonial Ground (Kellyville, Okla.) which is regarded as the mother ground for the Euchee/Yuchi. She is also a charter member of Pickett Chapel, an Indian Methodist church.

Phillip W. Coon, a full-blood Creek born into the Alligator Clan is of the Nuyaka Tribal Town, and a graduate of Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kan. (1941). On Sept. 19, 1941, Coon volunteered for overseas duty with the U.S. Army. He was assigned to the 4th Squad, H Company, 31st Infantry Regiment as a 30-caliber machine gunner. On April 11, 1942, he was captured in the Philippines by the Japanese Army. He survived not only transport on a "Hell Ship", but the infamous 61-mile Bataan Death March.

The SCIC luncheon also honored volunteers with certificates of appreciation and named Angela Krause as 2011 Volunteer Of The Year. SCIC members Richard Hicks and Tom Tiger had trees planted on the Center's grounds in their honor.

Fixico noted that, "We are honoring not only our elders, but our volunteers who donate their time and efforts to support and improve the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Elderly Nutrition Program and the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community. Their efforts help maintain the ENP program and allow others to enjoy activities and events throughout the year."

MNBE honored for global impact

NABEC/*Courtesy*

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise was honored as "Minority Global Technology Firm of the Year." Pictured from left to right are Tom Seth Smith, REI President & CEO; Woody Anderson, MNBE Director/CEO; John Iglehart, Regional Director, National Enterprise Center, Dallas and James Ray, NABEC coordinator.

Media Release
Native American Business Enterprise Center

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise, Okmulgee, was among recipients of awards during Oklahoma Minority Enterprise Development Week and named "Minority Global Technology Firm of the Year." The celebration of success was coordinated by the Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) of Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. (REI).

A tribally-owned SBA 8(a) certified company owned by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has two divisions: Professional Services and Life Safety & Security.

The Professional Services Division provides information technology services, program management, logistics, facility support, scientific and research support for state-side and international customers.

The Life Safety & Security Division specializes in CCTV, access control, mass notification, data and voice cable management systems and fire detection systems to universities, public schools, law enforcement, tribal governments, casinos and others. Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has grown from one employee in 2003 to as many as 95 and it continues to secure contracts in foreign countries.

"We are pleased to recognize Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise for its global impact but equally proud of its contribution to society," said James Ray, NABEC coordinator. "This company believes in giving back to the community through sponsorships of youth athletic teams, American Cancer Society and other worthy causes . Distributions from Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation have helped fund playground equipment for a public school, Christmas for Chartered Communities, Churches and Ceremonial Grounds and special appropriations to assist tribal members."

Through strategic partnerships with leading Oklahoma organizations, NABEC strives to assist minority business owners in reaching the next stage of growth for their companies with a special focus on procurement of government contracts.

For more information, visit www.oknabec.com.

Neighborhood Watch comes to Muscogee (Creek) Nation

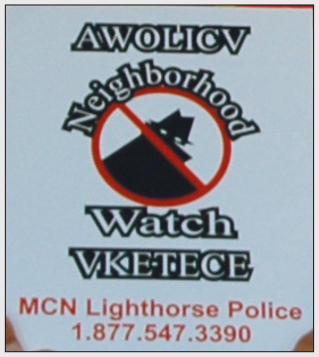
Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The Mvkoske words on the sign are "AWOLICV VKETECE." Translated into English, that's "Neighborhood Watch." Those words can be found on signs in neighborhoods and streets in the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Muscogee Lighthorse Police are working with citizens to bring the crime watch effort to help protect Creek residents.

CVFEKINET RAKVPKETV

MNN/*Gary Fife*
Neighborhood Watch signs were delivered to Creek veterans and West Okmulgee residents the posted Neighborhood Watch signs in their neighborhood.

The Neighborhood Watch program is a community policing effort that aims to get residents involved in keeping an eye on their own neighborhoods to keep crime and criminals out of those areas. It works by having neighbors watch their streets and homes for persons and activity that could be criminal or destructive. The phone number of the Lighthorse police is posted on these signs and residents are urged to report to law enforcement.



The signs serve as a warning to criminals and troublemakers, that the residents of this area are paying attention to unusual behavior or strange vehicles on their local streets.

Lighthorse Police Chief Jack Shackelford wants citizens to keep an eye out, "Its just watch and report. If you see suspicious activity, you're just watching your neighbor's home. It's just being a good neighbor basically. If you see something that's going on and you see somebody moving furniture out of a neighbor's home and it doesn't look right, call us, we'll come out and check. It doesn't hurt to check."

The new signs will be in Creek housing complexes and Okmulgee neighborhoods at first. The signs are in both languages in order to make sure all citizens, including those who primarily speak Mvskoke, have the information. They will be placed in low income and elderly housing in Okmulgee, Okemah, Checotah and around the Eufaula area.

Shackelford is hoping to partner the Lighthorse with local law enforcement agencies to police housing areas that lie outside Muscogee tribal jurisdiction.

Wes Baker, a Muscogee senior citizen and a veteran, received one of the first bi-lingual signs. He welcomes the use of the Mvskoke language.

"I go for it. There's a lot of Creeks that know how to read it. There's a lot of old citizens who understand this plainer than they would 'neighborhood', so I think it's a good deal."

Tim and Evelyn Pridgen live in a west Okmulgee neighborhood and have placed a new Muscogee Neighborhood Watch sign in their front yard. She's hoping the Neighborhood Watch program can help protect the people living there, "We believe that if we stand up for justice, then we can fight the crime together — crime doesn't have to enter our area." Tim says his neighbors are glad to have the new program on their streets and expects other nearby streets to join in the Watch.

Evelyn Pridgen added she believes the sign is a good warning to would-be criminals to stay away, "I think that it's going to make them aware that, yes, we are conscious of activity going on within our neighborhood and we are going to report any activity that we are not accustomed to in our own residential area, so yes, I do think it's going to make an impact."

For more information call the Muscogee (Creek) Lighthorse at 1-877-547-3390.

State

Continued from A1

Ellis listed the progress and achievements of the tribe that his administration and the National Council were able to accomplish over the past eight years.

He called for use of tribal resources to focus on job creation.

Among his many topics included the tribe's health, housing, social services, and various other programs. Throughout his speech, he quoted fiscal numbers on how the tribe is doing.

"If you go by these figures, you know that this Nation is doing well," Ellis said in front of a large crowd.

Ellis, elected in 2003, has served two terms as Principal Chief. The constitution of the MCN only allows the Principal Chief and Second Chief these limited terms. During his eight years in office, the tribe's fiscal budget has expanded.

"In 2004, in our permanent fund we had $58 million. Today, we have over $202 million."

There has been an increase in the social services the tribe can offer to its citizens.

Ellis reported that the Social Services Department assisted over 12,000 households. With the number of assistance given out has risen, Ellis wants something more for the citizens.

"We have created a lot of things, but we haven't created a lot of jobs," Ellis said. "The best thing you can give them is a job."

According to Ellis, in its first three years when the Housing Department was placed under the tribe, there were 462 homes built for Creek families.

A highlight of his speech was the reintegration program that assists tribal members after being released from prison.

"We got about a 95 percent success rate; the state of Oklahoma has a 35 percent success rate."

Other programs and highlights were included throughout the speech. The main focus was on the statistics on how the tribe was doing and in its present state.

The last casino built in the MCN boundaries was the Tulsa River Spirit Casino that opened in 2009 and reports over $7 million a month in revenue. The casino was built on a $195 million loan.The tribe now only owes just over $105 million.

"We can pay it off if we wanted to," Ellis said.

Ellis' term of office concludes at the end of this year. Although he leaves office, Ellis is optimistic about the current financial situation the Nation is in.

"We're in great shape," Ellis concluded.

Social Services July Field Schedule

Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	2nd Thursday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	3rd Wednesday of month
Eufaula	Skating Rink 9:00 am – 11:00 am	3rd Tuesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	4th Thursday of month
Koweta	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	2nd Tuesday of month
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	2nd Wednesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	3rd Thursday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	2nd Wednesday of month
Wetumka	Food Distribution 9:00 am – 11:00 am	1st Thursday of month

Dornan sworn in as Eufaula mayor

• National Council Rep. to serve as city's first female mayor

Eufaula Indian Journal/*Donna Pearce*

Eufaula City Judge Kay Wall (left) swears in Selina Jayne-Dornan (right) as Eufaula's mayor Monday, June 20, at the Eufaula City Hall Council Chambers.

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

EUFAULA — The city of Eufaula marked a milestone in the city's history with the election of its first female mayor. Selina Jayne-Dornan was sworn in as the mayor June 20, 2011 at the city hall conference room in downtown Eufaula.

"I think it's a highlight to be honored as the first female mayor," Dornan said.

Dornan defeated opponent Nancy Mouser in the run-off election with 342 votes to Mouser's 338.

"We want to move the city in a positive way and in my background, I have a lot to offer," Dornan said.

Dornan is currently a representative of the legislative branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a National Council member for McIntosh District. She sits on the Business and Governmental Committee and owns and operates four businesses.

With her victory, Dornan hopes her election is an inspiration for the youth. "I want to show our young people not to give up," Dornan remarked. "I just rolled up my sleeves and went to work."

Dornan is certain that her new position will not create a conflict of interest for the tribe and city, as she seeks re-election to the National Council later this year.

"There is no conflict of interest and I know I can devote time to this because I want to contribute; I want to give back to the tribe."

TCIC Business Board elections set for Sept. 2011

Media Release
Tulsa Creek Indian Community

TULSA — An election for the TCIC Business Board is scheduled for Sept. 2011.

The TCIC Business Board is responsible for the management and supervision of all business enterprises of the community and shall report directly to TCIC including oversight of the financial operations of the community. The board consists of five (5) officers elected in accordance with Art. Vll, TCIC Constitution.

Chairperson shall preside over all meetings; present all communications to the Board of Directors; delegate duties to each Officer as necessary; Vice-Chairperson shall act in absence of Chairperson provided a quorum is met; Secretary shall maintain a full report of all proceedings; Treasurer shall oversee books of accounts, receipts and other financial responsibilities; Sergeant-of-Arms shall maintain order during meetings.

Interested candidates are required to file a Letter of Intent with the TCIC Election Committee at 8611 S. Union, in Tulsa between July 1-15, 2011. Letters of Intent shall include the candidates' election position.

After submission of the Letter of Intent, candidates may pick up a more detailed information packet on the board positions from TCIC

For more information, please contact TCIC at (918) 298-2464.

OCMA to host MCN Candidate Forum Aug. 13

Media Release
OCMCA

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association (OCMA) will host a moderated Muscogee (Creek) Nation Candidate Forum Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Glorieta Baptist Church Gymnasium located at 7308 S. Western, in Oklahoma City, Okla.

All Muscogee (Creek) Nation candidates running for office are invited to participate in the forum.

The purpose of the forum is to give candidates an opportunity to address issues vital to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens who reside in Oklahoma City or outside the boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

There will be opportunities for the audience to ask questions during the forum. The goal is to offer voting citizens the opportunity to make an informed election decision.

For more information, please contact Ruby Harjo at (405) 808 - 6387.

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country: *Cokv-Walv Mvskoke Redux*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Grocery Bingo and Food Sale on July 9, 2011

B4 HISTORY

And Still the Waters Run: *The Battle of Horseshoe Bend*

B6 PEOPLE

Thank You: Shaunday Little Family

B7 PEOPLE

Birthday: Dayne Allen Billie

Mvskoke Country: *Cokv-Walv Mvskoke* Redux

by James Treat

The reliable return of summer solstice means the end of one year and the beginning of another in Mvskoke country.

Like other indigenous Americans, Mvskoke people “survived by knowing their natural environment well and making direct use of its surpluses. It was a land of abundance, but that abundance was only available to those who had the necessary skills,” writes J. Donald Hughes in North American Indian Ecology. “They kept track of annual cycles, naming the months after the natural changes they observed. Their lives were closely involved in nature’s rhythms, and they were conscious of this.”

Cokv-walv Mvskoke, the Mvskoke calendar, is one way our Mvskoke ancestors preserved their understanding of natural rhythms and resources. “The Indian names for the ‘moons,’ or months, show at least a part of their detailed knowledge of the seasonal cycles and rhythms of nature: when flowers or fruits would appear, when the young of animals would be born, when the lakes would freeze, when the birds would return. . . . The Indians’ science was a blend of observation, reason, insight and nature mysticism,” which is also a good description of modern technoscience if you replace nature mysticism with the profit motive.

And humanity’s great transformation from grounded spirituality to transcendent greed has laid the foundation for our current environmental crisis.

I began writing “Mvskoke Country” a couple of years ago in response to this crisis. In the first installment, titled “Return to Your Roots,” I commented on the landmark symposium organized by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative and supported by all three branches of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government, which is now an annual event. I also mentioned the National Congress of American Indians’ 2006 resolution “Supporting a National Mandatory Program to Reduce Climate Change Pollution and Promote Renewable Energy,” which remains one of the organization’s current initiatives.

After a year covering various environmental topics with a Mvskoke angle, especially in the context of anthropogenic (human-caused) climate change, I decided last summer to focus on the traditional Mvskoke calendar.

At first glance, this might not seem like fertile ground for cultivating ecological knowledge, since the Gregorian calendar used by the dominant culture bears little connection to nature. The English names for the months, for example, are based on a jumble of Latin numbers, Roman deities, and other useless anachronisms. And you may recall that the English word calendar comes from the Latin kalendarium, “moneylender’s account book,” an etymology that speaks volumes about the prevailing attitude toward natural rhythms: “time is money,” so they say.

Not so for cokv-walv Mvskoke.

The annual round begins with posketv, called “Green Corn” in English, along with little and big months named for the harvest, Hvyuce and Hyvo-Rakko; it is a time for reaping corn and other produce that will sustain the community through the year to come. This season of meskē, “summer,” continues with a couple of months announcing another kind of ingathering, Otvwoskuce and Otvwoskv-Rakko, when ripe chestnuts were thrashed down from the branches of a majestic tree now decimated by immigrant blight.

The next season—rvfo, “winter”—opens and closes with single months marking the arrival of falling temperatures and of rising winds: Eholē and Hotvlē-Hvse. In between these transitional periods are sibling months named for the season itself, Rvfo-Rakko and Rvfo ‘Cuse, when the natural world lies dormant and rests.

The third and final season is tasahcē, “spring”; it begins with paired months named for the season, Tasahcuce and Tasahce-Rakko, as the land awakens and invites the sowing of seeds. These are followed by two months honoring plants that provide edible fruit, Kē-Hvse and Kvco-Hvse, at a time when winter stores are running low and the new crops are not yet ready for harvest. The Mvskoke year then winds down with summer solstice and posketv as the annual cycle begins again.

No money changes hands under this calendar; the only transactions specified herein are ecological, not financial. Mvskoke citizens owe no allegiance to Roman imperialists—Julius Caesar (July), Augustus (August)—or to any culture that would conquer nature.

Instead, cokv-walv Mvskoke does exactly what a calendar ought to do: it reminds us where we are in time, just as a map helps us understand where we are in space. Both schemas work best when they situate a people in a place, orienting us to the means of survival through our natural environment.

It is good to have a Mvskoke calendar for Mvskoke country.

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

Emvponayv

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — We’ve seen a disturbing movement in some parts of the country to change the way U.S. history is taught. Some folks seem to feel our children don’t need to know about things like the Trail of Tears, slavery, racism, the women’s suffrage struggle and other historic facts that could cast a bad light on American’s early leadership.

The Tea Party of Tenn. argues, “no portrayal of minority experience in the history which actually occurred shall obscure the experience or contributions of the Founding Fathers, or the majority of citizens, including those who reached positions of leadership. The thing we need to focus on about the Founders is that, given the social structure of their time, they were revolutionaries who brought liberty into a world where it hadn’t existed, to everybody — not all equally instantly — and it was their progress that we need to look at.” In March of last year, the Texas Board of Education favored a proposal eliminating many parts of American history, including Thomas Jefferson, Indians, Hispanics and a few other things. Seems like we can’t be ignoring the true history of this country, in order to understand how it came about and what makes it up today. Like it or not, history is history. Our children deserve the truth as it “actually occurred”, especially the “not all equally instantly” language.

Closer to home, the proposal to fund the Oklahoma American Indian Museum has been voted down. The project has been around for years but had no guarantees of funding from the state. That leaves the museum with a visitors center and a skeleton of a roof. Even with tight budgets, that doesn’t make sense. Seems like some solution could be found with or without tribal support and consultation. On a related note, a bill to eliminate the Indian Affairs Commission in favor of a single Indian Affairs Liaison position passed the Legislature. That would be one heck of a job for one person. Remember there are 39 tribes with different cultures and agendas living here. One example of the difference: two tribes are on opposite sides in regards to using alternative energy schemes. The Osages are opposing the construction of a wind farm electrical generation project near the Tall Grass Prairie park. They’re saying it would impact their oil business, the environment and cost them jobs. Meanwhile, the Delawares are welcoming a solar electric power project they say will supply power and lead to new jobs. How would tribal input on an issue like alternative energy be considered? With tribal consultation reduced to a single person instead of the Indian Affairs Commission, no one can benefit.

This is a state that puts “Native America” on its license plates. With all these cuts coming from state government on Indian issues, perhaps Oklahoma (Choctaw for “Home of the Red Man”) should change the tags to read “Used to be Native America.”

But, on the positive side, the state Superintendent of Education DOES want to add more Native American history and culture to school curricula. There’s a fine idea. I always wondered why we were taught about the 1889 Land Rush, but nothing about us folks whose land the Boomers and Sooners were rushing over. We’ll see what kind of reception that idea gets.

Will Rogers said, “Never miss a good chance to shut up”, so I guess I will for a while.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MCN Head Start now accepting applications

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application. All races and ethnicities may apply.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

CMHI hosting Youth Field Day in July

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health Children's Mental Health Initiative will host Youth Field Days in July.

Youth boys and girls ages 6-13, will have the oppurtunity to enjoy healthy and safe activities such as relay races, a water toss, hula hooping and egg spoon races. Free food, drinks and a drawing for an ipod shuffle will also be available.

Wednesday July 6, 2011, events will be held at the Muskogee Indian Community Center from 5-7 p.m.

For more information, please contact MCN CMHI at (918) 224-9307.

MCN Blood Drive

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Blood Drive

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be having a blood drive on Friday, July 8,. It will be held at the Muscogee Housing Authority Building Conference Room on the first floor. Please sign up with Denise Jacobs at (918) 732-7632 or email at denisej@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Grocery Bingo & Food Sale

HOLDENVILLE — A benefit grocery and food sale will be held at the Holdenville Creek Indian Community Center on Saturday, July 9 from 10a.m.-3p.m. The grocery bingo will begin at 1p.m. There will be a cakewalk, door prizes, and two special games.

Lyle Deer Memorial Scholarship

PONCA CITY — The Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Council invites Native American junior or senior college students majoring in civil engineering to apply for the Lyle Deere Memorial Scholarship. The deadline to apply is July 15.

For more information, please contact the OTTC at (580) 763-0120.

Derrick Deere Co-ed Softball Tournament

OKMULGEE — The Derrick Deere Memorial co-ed softball tournmanet will be held at the MCN omniplex August 26-28. The entry fee is $125 and the deadline to enter is Aug. 19.

For more information, please contact Elise: (918) 261-0838, Trina: (918) 759-8959, or Brandee: (918) 752-9040. The tournmanet is in memory of Derrick C. Deere.

Reintigration Coat Drive

HENREYETTA — The MCN Reintegration program will be taking donations from July 1, to until the donations stop comin in for the first annual coat drive. They are accepting gently new and used coats for men, women and children. Donations can be dropped of at the Reintegration program. Other arrangments can be made.

For more information, pleae contact Becky Billingsly at (800) 259-1059 or at (918) 652-2676.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

HISTORY AT 8:17PM
IN THE KITCHEN
AFTER PIANO PRACTICE

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The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

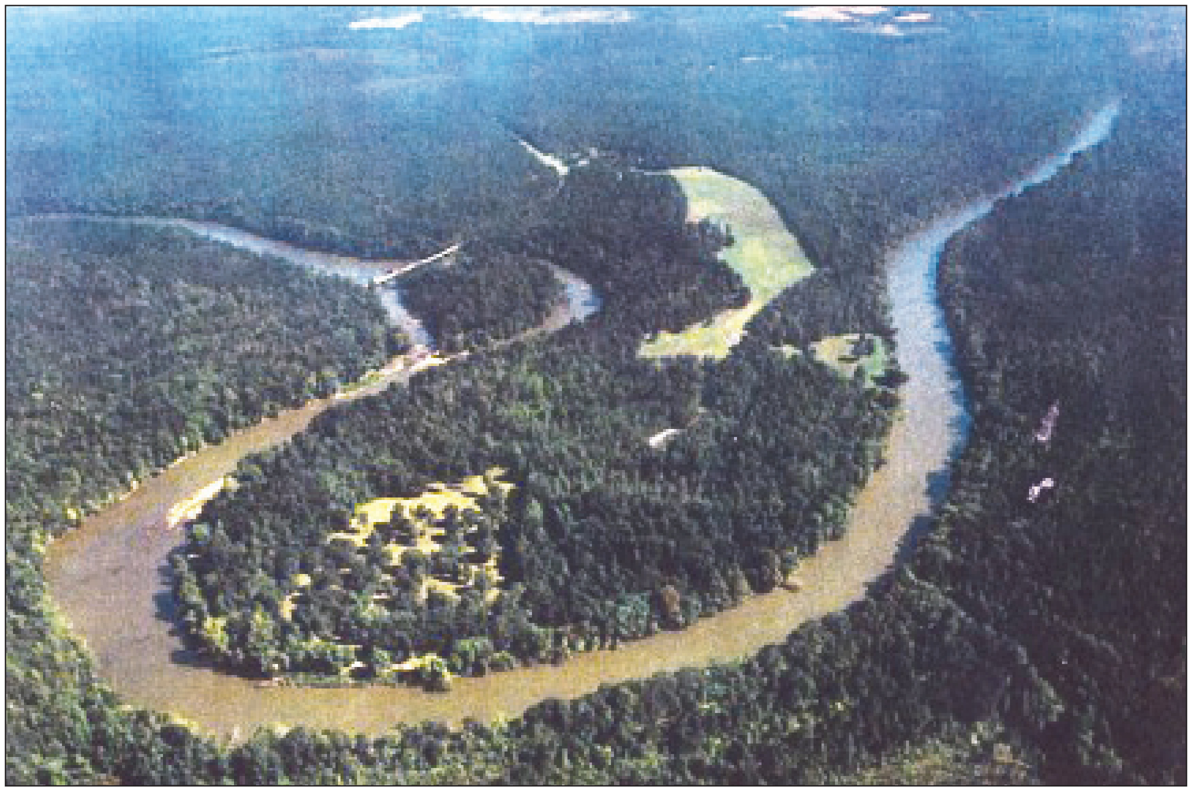
- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

And Still the Waters Run: *The Battle of Horseshoe Bend*

George Windes
CMCA Historian



Photos courtesy/*George Windes*

Pictured above is Horseshoe Bend located on the Tallapoosa River. Below is a rendering of the wall built to protect the Creeks from Andrew Jackson's forces in 1814.

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — Nearly 100 acres of land in a horseshoe-shaped peninsula of the Tallapoosa, it was called Horseshoe Bend by white men from the Creek word *Tohopeka*.

Indian scouts who saw it returned to Jackson's camp to report an impregnable rampart had been built across the neck of the peninsula and much heavy artillery would be needed if Jackson's troops ever hoped to break through it.

The place was called Cholocco Litabixee by the Creeks. Learning that Jackson's troops were advancing, 1,000 warriors painted their bodies and prepared for battle, while about 400 women and children huddled down in the village toward the rear of the peninsula.

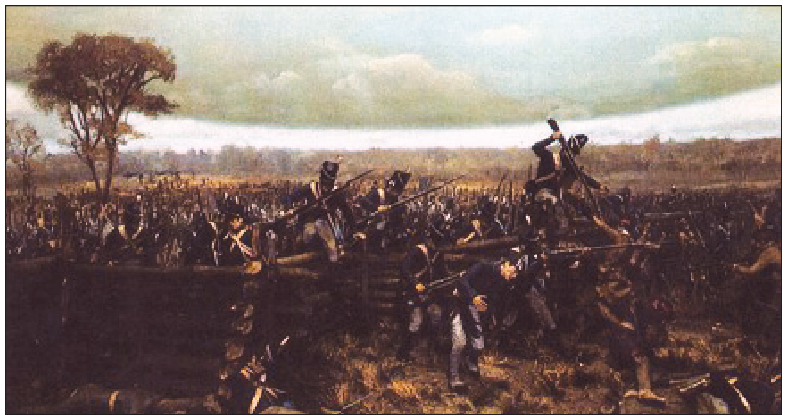
The date was March 27, 1814. Jackson planned to exterminate the Red Sticks forever.

Jackson ordered Gen. Coffee to take 800 soldiers and 600 friendly Indians (500 Cherokee and 100 Creeks) to close all means of retreat for those within the peninsula.

The remainder of the troops lined up in front of the breastworks. It was just 10 a.m. Two cannons were moved up a small hill 80 feet from the structure.

Jackson ordered the firing to commence, thinking the rampart would quickly be destroyed. He was mistaken. Two hours and 70 rounds later, none had penetrated, while his men were under continual rifle fire from the Red Sticks. He was perplexed.

Meanwhile, Coffee's troops saw about 100 Creeks attempting to get the women and children to safety. Some of his friendly Indians then swam the river and took the canoes needed for retreat. Soon, 200 of Coffee's Cherokees came across and began to fight. The Red Sticks were dealing with a hugely superior enemy. Slowly, they were being pushed back toward the higher center of the peninsula, as Coffee's troops set fire to the village itself.



Outside the rampart, the cannons useless, Andrew Jackson decided to send his troops forward to attempt to climb it. Many soldiers were cut down, and yet kept coming. Major Lemuel Montgomery reached the top of the wall and was killed, his body falling back into his men's arms. Ensign Sam Houston (later of Texas), though injured, managed to make it over the wall. The vastly superior forces soon prevailed.

The fighting was fierce, but clubs and tomahawks were poor equals to long-reaching bayonets. The warriors were caught between the two advancing forces of Jackson's army.

Could Red Eagle have made a difference? Probably not. He was several miles away when the battle began, recruiting additional warriors from nearby villages. Chief Menawa and other chiefs were acting in his stead. The battle turned into a "merciless blood bath," with women and children not always spared.

The battle raged for five hours, when darkness made it nearly impossible for the troops to see the fleeing Red Sticks. Some escaped by swimming the river, others hid in the undergrowth.

Menawa was seriously injured. He hid in water under the riverbank and later floated down river. Army sharpshooters continued to kill Creeks by moonlight as they left the river. The entire peninsula was covered with the dead and dying. Eight hundred out of the 1,000 Creeks were dead, in addition to some women and children. Jackson lost about 70 soldiers and Cherokees, with 150 injured.

A historian has said the Battle of Cholocco Litabixee "stands alone in the history of savage warfare," since the fate of an entire (Creek) nation was determined by the outcome. To add insult to injury, on March 27, 1914, a tablet was placed at a Court-house in Tallapoosa County at Dadeville, Ala., (14 miles from Horseshoe Bend). It st ates:

1814-1914

This tablet is placed by Tallapoosa County in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, fought within its limits on March 27, 1814. There the Creek Indians led by Menawa and other chiefs were defeated by the American and allied Indian forces under Gen. Andrew Jackson.

The battle broke the power of the fierce Muscogee, brought peace to the southern frontier, and made possible the speedy opening up of a large part of the state of Alabama to "CIVILIZATION."

Dadeville, Alabama – March 27, 1914

So trying to exterminate an Indian nation and stealing 20,000,000 acres of land from them makes you civilized…

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

Bluhm named Mrs. Washington State

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

TUMWATER, Wash., — The pageant world is something that Lisa Bluhm didn't grow up in. Before turning 40, Bluhm wanted to change her attitude and self-esteem. The Muscogee (Creek) mother of two knew a beauty pageant was just what she needed.

"I needed a challenge to boost my self image that 40 can be fabulous," Bluhm said. "I decided entering a pageant would do just the trick."

Bluhm decided to enter the Mrs. Washington Pageant. The pageant is an opportunity for married women to represent the state of Washington and compete in the Mrs. America Pageant.

"Although I had never done a pageant before, I felt since 50 percent of the score was from the interview I had a fair chance at competing."

This was not the first year Bluhm had entered the pageant. In the past two years, Bluhm finished in the top eight the first year and fourth runner up last year. "I decided to run for a third year and win or lose, it would be my last year."

Unlike other beauty pageants, the interview is what really determines the winner. According to the rules of the pageant, there is no talent portion. Bluhm's platform this year was "unlocking your potential."

"My platform is about inspiring people to take their natural gifts and talents and use them to their fullest potential in order to reach their goals and make their dreams come true," Bluhm said.

After her hard work and dedication from the past two years, it was time for the winner. "Third time's a charm they say. After the scores were tallied I was chosen as Mrs. Washington 2011," Bluhm said with excitement.

Bluhm then qualified to compete in the Mrs. America pageant held in West Virginia. Bluhm and the other contestants had a lot of activities to keep them busy that included fly fishing, bowling, formal dinners and working on a house for Habitat for Humanity.

"It was one of the best events I participated in during my Mrs. America experience."

Unfortunately, Bluhm did not place earn any titles at the competition, but it's the memories and friends that she'll cherish the most. "It was the experience of a lifetime and I have acquired many new friends."

While Bluhm may not be the new Mrs. America, she will still continue serving as Mrs. Washington.

"I have the rest of my reign until March 12…and enjoy the honor of wearing the crown and sash as a representative of the married women in Washington State."

WASHINGTON

Photo/*Mrs. Washington Pageant*
Pictured above is Lisa Bluhm who recently competed and won the 2011 Mrs. Washington State Pageant.

In DeLaune's Corner: *Beef and hopscotch*

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — Attention all Muscogee (Creek) athletes: I am calling you out.

For the next few months, I want to sit down with athletes both young and old, to hear some sports war stories.

Wins, losses, highlights, friendships made — anything that pertains to playing basketball, baseball, softball, teams, tournaments, travel, games played in a day (and or night) — I want to hear the great stories (and I know they will be great stories).

Training Diary: July 2011

Training camp is in full swing right now. So far, it has been off to a good start. A lot of people who watch boxing and do not really know anything about it just think that there are just two people in the ring and all they are doing is throwing punches at each other. If that were the case, there would be no sense in training at all. There is a lot more to it. Skills like how to avoid a punch to the head and blocking with one hand while throwing a punch with the other must be learned along with throwing combinations. There are numerous things that must be taught in order to be successful in a fight.

Also, here is an update for my fight, which was supposed to take place Aug. 26. Due to some problems with the date, the fight is being moved to Sept TBA. It is a little set back, but more training for me to improve.

Okay, I promised in the last entry to bring up what my daughter had for our little training and what she said would help to get ready for the fights. Before this fight I had an exhibition that I was getting ready for and Syeann told me some very unique training methods she thought of. One part of training was to fight a cow. Yes, a cow! It was just as comical trying to do that. I had a good run out of it. Never was able to hit the cow. He would not stop running away from me. Hopefully my opponent is not like that at all. My friends told me that Rocky Balboa fought cows for his training. They need to remember that those cows were hanging on meat racks in a butcher shop.

Another training technique she wanted me to employ was hopscotch. When asked why, she said I needed nimble feet so I told her that I would do that. Apparently that was not enough for her because she asked some of my friends to go to my house to tell her that I was playing hopscotch.

In this training camp, I will not be fighting cattle, but I am still doing the hopscotch (she keeps reminding me to do those). I think it is better to stick to the boxing. It was still pretty fun though.

Okay, that is it for this entry. I want to thank you for reading what I have been going through. On next entry, hopefully there will be a permanent date set and I will introduce you to my team. These guys are known for their success in both training and boxing. With their help, I will be taking home the "W" in September. Until then, take care of yourself.

I look forward to hearing your stories. To contact me, please call (918) 732-7703 or e-mail me at ddelaune@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

OBITUARIES

LEILA BARNETT BARNES

WETUMKA — Leila Barnett Barnes, 86, of Wetumka, Okla., was joyously reunited in heaven with her husband Thomas A. Barnes on Aug. 1, 2010. She was born Feb. 17, 1924, in Wetumka, Okla. She was the youngest child of Samochee and Malinda Harjo Barnett. She was a lifetime resident of Wetumka, Okla., and a member of the Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town. She was preceded in death by her husband, four sons and four daughters.

Her surviving children are Micki Deer, Charles Toma Barnes and Paula Sue Herrod of Wetumka, Okla., and Malinda Ann Gibson of Chickasha, Okla.

She was blessed and leaves 39 grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren and eight great-great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, and brother and sisters in Christ. She was laid to rest at the Barnes cemetery.

PAULINE LEONA BEAN

EUFAULA — Pauline Leona Bean, 88, of Eufaula, passed away on Friday, June 24, 2011 at the Eufaula Manor Nursing Home. Pauline was born May 15, 1923 in Eufaula, Okla., to Tom and Eliza (Phillips) Manley. She was raised and educated in Eufaula, Okla. On Sept. 18, 1961, Pauline married the Rev. Woodrow "Amos" Bean, who preceded her in death in 1997. She worked at a sewing factory for five years in Eufaula, then as a health care provider for human services for over 15 years in the Eufaula area. Pauline was a life time member of the Artussee Indian Baptist Church, where she was baptized in 1933, at the age of 10. She will be deeply missed.

Survivors include her son, Elliott Fields, of the home; one sister-in-law, Cynthia Manley, of Tulsa, OK; two granddaughters, Edna Pauline Fields, of Tulsa, Okla.; Shelia Desautel, of Wash.; and four great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Eliza Phillips; her husband, Rev. Woodrow "Amos" Bean; one son, Arnold Fields; one grandson, John Fields; and one brother, Frederick Manley.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 30, 2011 at the Artussee Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Robert Washington officiating. Pallbearers were Raymond Tiger, David Dean Francis, Roger Manley, Douglas Manley, Francis Lewis, and Bill Phillips. Honorary Pallbearers were Jake Jackson, Tim Lowe, Sonny Robinson, Jacob Lonewolf, David Lonewolf, Joe McGirt, Mike McGirt, and Colbert Hill. Burial followed at Artussee Cemetery under the direction of Hunn Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory.

DONALD R. FRANKS

COVINA, Calif. — Donald R. Franks, better known as "Donny", passed away June 9, 2011 at the age of 46. He was born on March 18, 1965 in Covina Calif.

Donny's grandfather was Joseph Frank, his great grandparents were Tingo and Mandy Frank. He is survived by nephew Stone Flores, sister Laura Franks Flores, mother Sandra Franks and father Donald Franks. Wishes and prayer may be sent to 22919 Styles Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. He was of the Beaver Clan.

KATHERINE GOATE MUNOZ

LAWTON — Katherine "Sissy" Goate Munoz, beloved wife of William R. Munoz, went home to be with her Lord April, 29, 2011 at Comanche Memorial Hospital in Lawton, Okla., after her lifelong battle with diabetes.

She was born in Eufaula, Okla., Dec. 9, 1942 to the Rev. John J. and Athelena Goate and grew up in Holdenville, Okla. She was an enrolled full-blooded Muscogee (Creek). She was educated at Holdenville High School and graduated college at Haskell Institute where she was in the band and played saxophone.

She married William Munoz on Sept. 15, 1972. Her lifelong passion was ministry through singing and playing the piano; she loved southern gospel music and her Muscogee (Creek) hymns. Her life was centered on ministry and church. Her career was in civil service as a stenographer and secretary with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fort Sill Indian School, and Fort Sill where she retired in 1993. She volunteered with the Suicide Hotline, fed the hungry and assisted wherever there was need. She loved traveling, oldies, music and her beloved pets.

Katherine was preceded in death by her parents Rev. John J. and Athelena Goate, her grandchildren Michella and Benjamin Crow, her niece Gabriella Goate, her brother-in-laws Don McLaughline and Eddie Munoz. She is survived by her husband of 38 years William R. Munoz of Altus, son and daughter-in-law Curtis J., and Lynn Munoz of Carnegie, Okla.; two daughters and sons-in-law Catherine Julia and Randall Patterson of Navarre, Ohio and Shonda L., and Tedd Crow of Lawton, Okla.; a brother and his spouse Alfred J. and Nancy Goate of Oklahoma City, Okla.; three sisters and their spouses: Rachael Williams of Oklahoma City, Okla., Alice and Rick Lott of New Llano, La., Lydia and Larry Harrison of Seminole, Okla.; Father-in-law and mother-in-law John and Helen Neal of Charlotte, N.C., brother-in-law John Neal of Lowell, N.C., sisters-in-law Donna and Jeff Falls of Gastonia, N.C., Linda and Ray Hill of Fayetteville, N.C., and Diana Woringer of Gastonia, N.C.; five grandchildren: Ashely and Joshua Patterson, Riley Munoz, Tedd and Samuel Crow. She also has many nephews and nieces she loved dearly. The family is thankful for the many prayers and condolences during this time of our grief. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Diabetes Association.

THANK YOU

SHAUNDAY LITTLE

OKMULGEE — The family of Shaunday Little would like to express our gratitude for all of the love and support that was extended to us during our time of need. We are so grateful for the time that we had with Shaunday; she will be forever in our hearts.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Little Cussetah Church, Wilson Indian Community Center, Creek Nation and Shurden Funeral Home.

Thank you to Creek Nation Communications for the memorials and The Screen and Stitch Co., of Okmulgee who made the shirts and banner. They both did a beautiful job.

To the cooks and those who offered food as well as their time, flowers and gifts, Mvto! As somebody told me: That for everyone that was there to see her off on her journey, just imagine how many there are waiting to receive her. We take comfort in knowing that she was well received by her creator and those gone on before us.

Pun yvhiketv "Momis Komet Vpeyakvres" makat, fvccvt os. Momet oketv ofvn fullet owes. Omvlkatskat, vnicet mekosapatskat, mvto ce kices.

ACCOMPLISHMENT

ELLA BAILEY

BAPCHULE, Ariz., — Ella Bailey was honored in April for her outstanding teaching by the administration and peers of Casa Blanca Community School in the Gila River Indian Community near Phoenix, Ariz.

She has spent 18 out of 26 years teaching first graders. Bailey is the daughter of the late Mary Barnett and granddaughter of the late Toney and Rhoda “Cato” Barnett.

CHEYENNE JACKSON

WAINWRIGHT — Christopher Cheyenne Bruce Jackson won the Wainwright Elementary Soft Seven Math Race Feb. 15.

Jackson won first place with a score of 4,838 points. He was awarded a medal, an Einstein T-shirt and an iPod. Jackson also competed in the regional championship in April and later qualified to compete in the state’s Soft Seven Math Championship held in May.

Jackson is the son of Christopher and Christie Jackson of Oktaha and is the grandson of Jackie and Dianna Jackson of Okmulgee and the late Gary and Debbie Guthrie.

JAYDN POWELL

TUTTLE — Jaydn Powell, a fifth-grader at Tuttle Middle School received the following awards for the 2010-2011 school year: Presidential Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma Student of Today Award; D.A.R.E. Award; Living Wise Award; Web Expert Award; Honor Roll; Science Fair Award; Reading, Science, Language Arts, Mathematics and Social Studies Award (awarded for maintaining all A’s throughout the school year).

Powell is the daughter of Bryant and Michell Powell and the granddaughter of Reg and Gaye Thompson, Jim Tidwell, and Ken and Janice Hardy.

Powell is of the Alligator Clan.

MICHELLE POWELL

CHICKASHA — Michelle Powell starred in the Chickasha Community Theatre Production of “On Golden Pond.” She played the role of Chelsea Thayer. Powell lives in Tuttle, Okla., and is the daughter of Reg and Gay Thompson and Jim Tidwell.

She is of the Alligator Clan.

COURTNEY REEDER

NORMAN — Courtney L.Q. Reeder made the Dean’s Honor Roll for the fall 2010 semester. She attends the University of Oklahoma and is majoring in Native American Studies.

Reader is the daughter of Sonya Reader Orange; granddaughter of Cliff and Elizabeth (Long) Reader. Her great-grandparents are the late Rev. New Long and Hettie (Tiger) Long Reeder and the late Adam and Helen (Redhorn) Kaulaitv. She is of the Tiger Clan.

BIRTH

ISABELL RAIN ARPOIKA

SEMINOLE — Isabell Rain Arpoika was born on April 4,2011 to Tylor and Kendra Arpoika. She weighed 6 lbs and 3 ounces.

Her paternal grandparents are Brad and Angela Arpoika of Tecumseh, Okla. Great-grandparent is the late Lenda Arpoika and her great-great grandparents are the late William and Elva Arpoika. Maternal grandparents are Ken and Samarian Fixico of Seminole, Okla.

BIRTHDAYS

DAYNE ALLEN BILLIE

CLEWISTON, Fla., — Dayne Allen Billie celebrated his sixth birthday June 15, 2011 with a “Sonic the Hedgehog” themed party.

Parents are Allen and Mary Billie.

Grandparents are Lon Bear and the late Susanna Deeringwater Bear and Thomas and Jane Billie.

Great grandparents are the late Henry and late Louise Deeringwater and Alice Billie and Francis Osceola.

Billie attends Ahfachkee School on the Big Cyprus Reservation.

Billie is of the Wind Clan.

MICHAEL HARJO

TULSA — Michael L. Harjo (Fugo) celebrated his fourth birthday June 5, 2011 with a “Batman” themed party.

Parents are Chubby Harjo and Renee Pryor.

Harjo has five siblings: Elissa Lindsay, Clarissa Cosey, Jonathan (Bud) Harjo, Sara Long and Brianna Byce.

Grandparents are the late J.W. Harjo and late Naomi Harjo , Clarke Pryor and Mable and Bill Smith.

Harjo is of the Wind Clan and a member of the Greenleaf Ceremonial Ground.

KYLIE HILL

TULSA — Kylie Hill celebrated her eighth birthday on June 12, 2011 with a party at BounceU in Tulsa. She is the daughter of Kendra Bear of Tulsa and BJ Hill of Okmulgee. Her maternal grandparents are Buster and Kathy Bear and paternal grandparents are Maria and Billy Hill.

Kylie likes playing softball, and stickball and going to stompdances. She is a member of Hickory Ground Ceremonial Ground and is of the Bear Clan.

Send us your lifestyle news

To submit announcements, please mail to:

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18TH ANNIVERSARY

18th Anniversary Casino Celebration
$18 Match Play. Hot Seat Drawings (Noon - 8:30 PM) for $1,000, $2,000, $5,000, and $10,000 cash prizes plus a 2011 GMC Sierra truck grand prize.

18th Anniversary Blackjack Drawings
(1:00 PM - 9:30 PM) $10,000 in cash and prizes!

18th Anniversary
$5,000 Guarantee Poker Tournament
(12:30 PM) $20 buy-in, rebuys available. $10 add-ons.

18th Anniversary Poker Splash Pots
(4:00 PM - Midnight) $180 splashed on every live action poker table every hour.

18th Anniversary Bingo Session
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Muscogee Nation Festival

37th annual

2011

Claude Cox Omniplex Okmulgee, Oklahoma June 23-26

FINISH
FINI
TRANSIT
825
815
24
826
12
817
813
820
14
821
706
705

38th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Rodeo is a bull-sized job

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — “They say, to learn how to be a bullrider, you put a whole bunch of marbles in your mouth. Every time you get on a bull, then you spit one out. When you lost all your marbles, then you’re a bullrider.” That’s according to a story from Brad Fish, former bullrider and current President of the rodeo association, which put on the event for the 2011 Creek Nation Festival.

You don’t have to have lost all your marbles to have enjoyed bullriding and a host of other events at the 2011 Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR) Region 8 Tour Rodeo held June 24-25 at the Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena.

This popular event draws contestants from all over the country to compete in bronc busting, calf-roping, barrel and even ‘mutton-bustin’ for the younger kids who enter this sheep riding event. Specialty acts for this year included a Pony Express competition and a calf scramble.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

The bronc-riding is one of the many events that featured Native cowboys as part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 38th annual

The origins of rodeo have roots in the everyday tasks of running a ranch. For instance, it gave ranch hands something to do in their spare time Fish said, “ Take calf-roping, back in the old days, them old cowboys would be bored and they just kind of got to doing that to pass the time. It’s a real competitive sport. They were breaking horses, so they got into that.” “Bull-riding, “ he laughs, “I think that was some old guys out there that didn’t have no better sense.”

The job of coordinating the rodeo is massive. Logistical tasks of assembling stock, preparing the arena, insurance, and lining up entries are just some of the tasks the association has to worry about. Fish adds some of the other things they have to keep track of, “You got to get a stock contractor, you’ve got to go get your arena, see how much your arena is going to cost, how much your insurance is going to cost. If you’re going to put a concession stand up there, you got to figure out how much food you need for your concession stand—you don’t want to buy too much or too little. You’ve got to get your clowns. You’ve got to get your secretary, and get your added money.”

The animals used for the competition are one of the critical factors in a successful rodeo. Fish says they’ve got to put on a good show, and hopefully, spare the riders serious injury. He explains what characteristics a good bull or bronc must possess, “ On bulls, you just want them all to buck--you want an ‘even pen’. You want them all to buck. You don’t want one to come out and really buck, and the next one to come out and quit. You don’t want them fighting in the chute. You don’t want one to be what they call an ‘eater’—they’ll come out there after the cowboy comes off, and they try to tear them up or something. For the saddle bronc, you want one that sits good in the chute, you want them to come out and really buck and give you an honest ride.”

Growing up on a ranch and being around horses and cattle provide a solid foundation for would-be rodeo competitors. There’s no substitute for starting early, Fish said. He remembers a fall on his head as a first rodeo experience, ”Me and brother, I think we started riding bulls when he was 16 and I was 10. I went to a rodeo with him one time, and he had a buddy. His buddy backed out from riding his bull, so I got on him. “Sweet Sixteen”--I can still remember his name and he came out there and went to the left, and starting spinning and threw me on my head. After that I was hooked.”

Fish is hoping other tribes can become involved and support of this rodeo to make it even more of an opportunity for Indian cowboys to compete. Additionally, he’s looking to interested parties to help put on rodeo clinics for youth to become involved. Volunteers are welcome to help out in the office or even the concession stands.

This years’ rodeo included bareback riding, barrel racing, team roping, bull riding calf roping, breakway roping, steer wrestling and saddle bronc riding. Junior and senior events rounded out a full two-day schedule.

Celebrate Life: a success

Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — William Lowe was in his position no longer than three months before his office had to oversee the annual festival.

The 37th Muscogee (Creek) Festival was held in Okmulgee, Okla., throughout the month of June, culminating on the weekend of the 23 through the 26.

Lowe was hired in April to serve as the director of the Tourism and Recreation Department.

“I thought it was outstanding. Just seeing everybody working together and seeing it behind the scenes was the interesting part of it,” Lowe said from his office on the Tuesday after festival weekend.

Lowe attributes much of the success from the festival running smoothly to the numerous volunteers and employees. “It was great to see so many volunteers working together.”

Brian On-The-Hill, Projects Specialists for the department agreed. “I think everyone had a good time.”

Lowe is optimistic about future festivals and activities that his department will coordinate.

“We’ve been doing quality festivals for 37 years now, so we’ll continue doing them and keep on improving,” Lowe said.

RESULTS

Friday, June 24

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Quilt Contest: Machine

1. SUE MORGAN
2. MELISSA SEIFRIED
3. JOHNNIE MAE FOX

Hand Sewn

1. LORETTA YAHOLA

Horshoes

Men

1. RICHARD RANDALL & JOHNNIE HICKS
2. JOHN BROWN & JOHNNY HARJO
3. REX WATSON & THOMAS TIGER

Women

1. OLETA DONATHAN & JOHNNIE MARKS
2.LYDIA TARYOLE & EDNA GRAFFENRERD
3. RACHEL HUSMAN & LORETTA YAHOLA

Jacks Contest

1. NELLIE LASLEY
2. MARGIE CHALAKEE
3. RACHEL HUSMAN

Sofkey Contest

1. BETTY FRYE
2. ED WALKER
3. JOHNNIE HICKS

Sour Cornbread Contest

1. MARGIE CHALAKEE

Basketball

MEN

1. EMANUEL MORGAN
2. JOE MCNAC
3. DON WASHINGTON

WOMEN

1. KATIE WOOD
2. RACHEL HUSMAN
3. ANNIE HICKS

Traveled the Farthest

1. ROGER T. JONES, San Bernandino, Calif.

Oldest Creek in Attendance

1.JORENE COKER

Saturday, June 25

PARADE RESULTS

COMMUNITY FLOATS

1. OKFUSKEE INDIAN COMMUNITY
2. MICHAEL HICKS /THE LITTLE IDNIANS
3. MIDDLE CREEK #2 CHURCH

MCN DEPARTMENTS

1. COLLEGE OFTHE MUSCOGEE NATION
2. KOWETA INDIAN HEALTH

INDIAN CAR

1. EMMANUAL MORGAN

VOLLEYBALL

1. SUN DEVILS
2. WILD SETS
3. SET FOR ME

MVP

MALE: ETHAN BELL
FEMALE: LISA WILLIAMS

HORSESHOES

MEN'S SINGLES

1. BUNKY
2. RICK DANIELS
3. THOMAS K.

MEN'S DOUBLES

1. SAM BEAVER, JR/BOBBY HARJO
2. THOMAS K./RICK DANIELS
3. PAUL TECUMSEH/BUNKY

MEN'S RINGER THROW

1. ERIK HARJO
2. BOBBY HARJO
3. BUNKY

LADIES SINGLES

1. CANDACE TIGER
2. BRENDA DAVIES
3. SARAH MORGAN

LADIES DOUBLES

1. CANDACE TIGER/ BRENDA DAVIES
2. SARAH MORGAN/ LINDA HICKS
3. ADDIE HICKS/JEREMY BEAVER

LADIES RINGER THROW

1. BRENDA DAVIES
2. SARAH MORGAN
3. LINDA HICKS

5k Results

MALE: TOP FINISHERS

1. NIGEL HAMPTON
2. BRANDON PAYNE
3. LOGAN EDMONDS

MALE: AGE 1-12

1. NATHANIEL COFFEY
2. PERRY BARTELS
3. KOBE HARRISON

MALE: AGE 13-15

1. SAGE LARNEBULL
2. KENDALL CHARLEY
3.ALEC BYRD

MALE: AGE 16-19

1. NIGEL HAMPTON
2. LOGAN EDMONDS
3. FRANKIE COMETSEUAH

MALE: AGE 20-24

1. BRANDON PAYNE
2. BILLY CHRISTY
3. BARAK BALD EAGLE

MALE: AGE 25-29

1. VINCENT BACCUS

MALE: AGE 30-34

1. OWEN WOFFORD
2. CHRISTOPHER AZBELL
3. JASON NICHOLS

MALE: AGE 35-39

1. MIKE WOODWARD
2. KERRY RILEY
3. DUANE MEADOWS

MALE: AGE 40-44

1. WILSON PIPESTEM

MALE: AGE 45-49

1. ROBERT ANQUOE
2. MIKE PROCTOR

MALE: AGE 50-54

1.STEPHEN WIND
2. MICHAEL RIVERA
3. LEON YAHOLA

MALE: AGE 55-59

1. GEORGE TAYLOR
2. STEVEN YAHOLA
3. DAVID LENA

MALE: AGE 60-64

1. RICHARD DONALDSON
2. CARL PETERSON

MALE: AGE 65-69

1. LARRY BIDDLE
2. WALTER GOWAN

MALE: AGE 70-98

1. JIM THOMAS
2. CLIFFORD LEWIS
3. BILLY CHALAKEE

FEMALE: TOP FINISHERS

1. KRISTI PERRYMAN
2. JANA PRATT
3. LASHAYLA SMOKER

FEMALE: AGE 1-12

1. LAYSHAYLA SMOKER
2. AUTUMN DEARMAN
3. ALLIE HARRISON

FEMALE: AGE 13-15

1. JANA PRATT
2. CANDACE REDHAT
3. ROMONA PIERSON

FEMALE: AGE 16-19

1. LYNDSAY JENKINS
2. CHERRIE HENLEY
3. TARA STARR

FEMALE: AGE 20-24

1. FAITH HARJO
2. LINDSEY PROCTOR

FEMALE: AGE 25-29

1. MELISSA HAAG
2. TAWNA LITTLE
3. HANNAH BROWN

FEMALE: AGE 30-34

1. KAREN FISH
2. STEPHANIE ROMANNOSE
3. AMANDA WILLIAMS

FEMALE: AGE 35-39

1. KRISTI PERRYMAN
2. REBECCA LECLAIR
3. DELANA WESTMAN-BERRY

FEMALE: AGE 40-44

1. SERENA FOREMAN
2. DEBRA GEE
3. LISA SANDS

FEMALE: AGE 45-49

1. TRAY ANQUOE
2. TERRI BARTELS
3. SHARON PROCTOR

FEMALE: AGE 50-54

1. DEBRA ISHAM
2. SUE FISH

FEMALE: AGE 55-59

1. DENNY LEE
2. LINDA PEELER
3. MELINDA BYRD

FEMALE: AGE 60-64

1. SUSAN COMBS
2. JANEY PARKS

FEMALE: AGE 65-69

1. JEAN WILBOURN
2. LILLIAM THOMAS

MEN'S SLOW-PITCH

1. CHITTO HARJO
2. SHA-TO-U
3. LADY MVP

CO-ED SLOW-PITCH

1. ATS
2. MIX BREED
3. EOS

WOMEN'S FAST-PITCH

1. LADY MVP
2. NEN
3. RENEGADES

MEN'S FAST-PITCH

1. SEMINOLES
2. BRAVES
3. FREAK-R-US

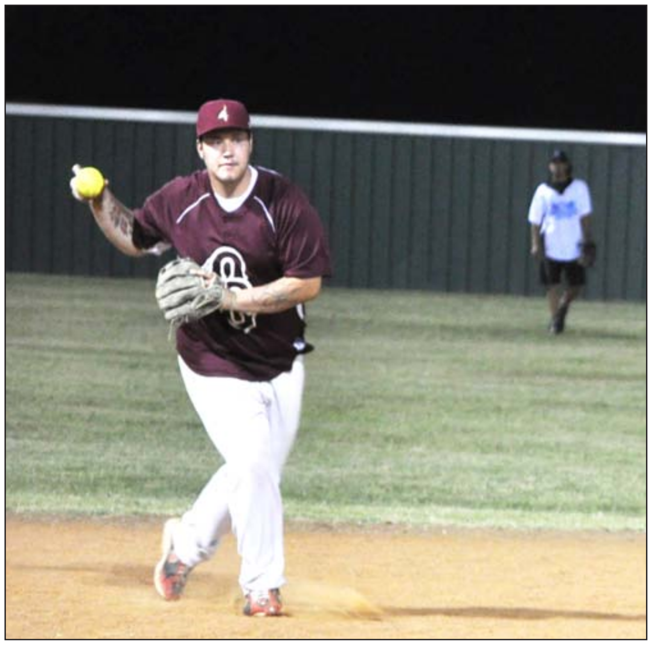
FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL
COUNCIL

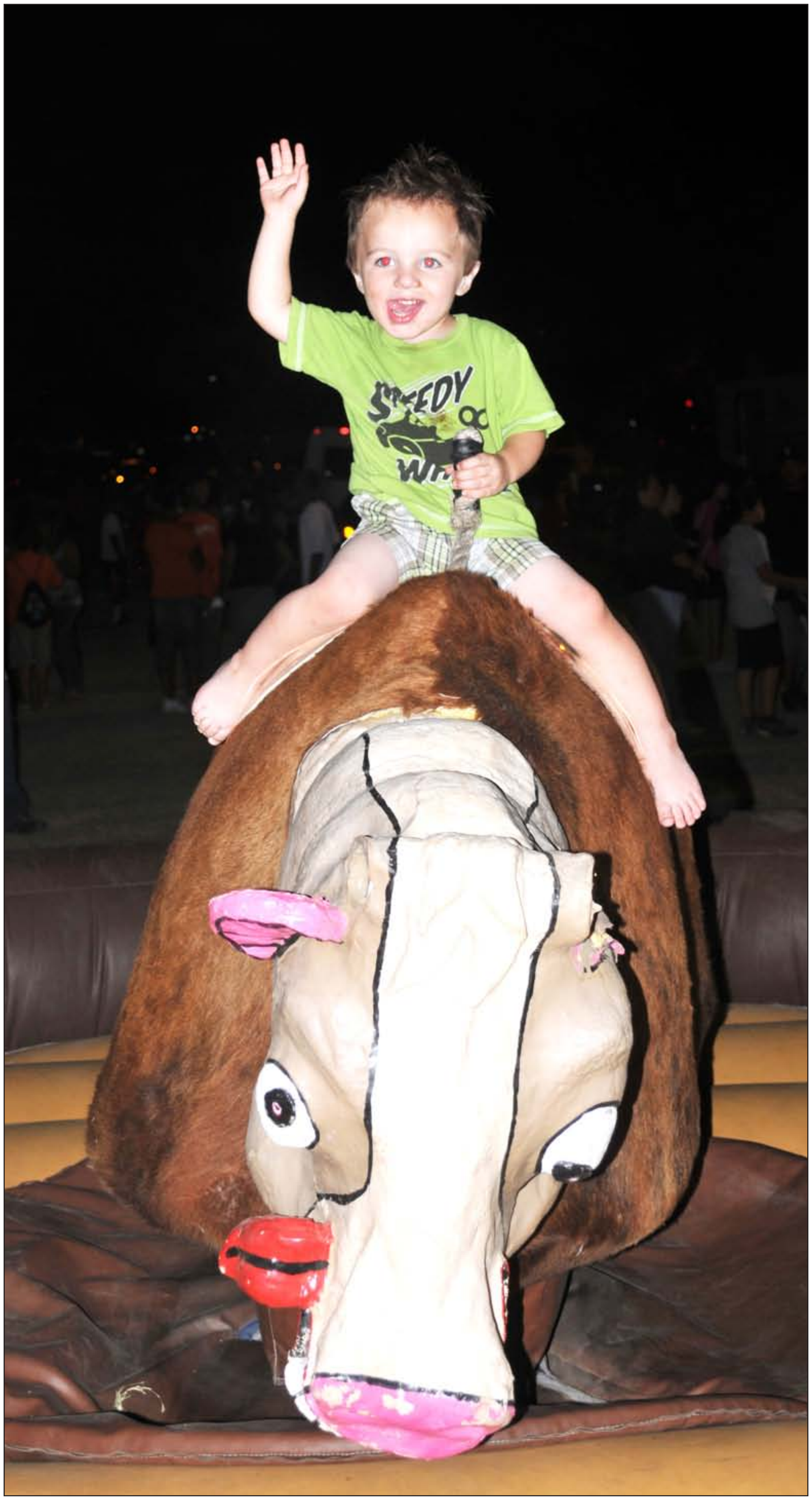
FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

Celebrate Life!
Afvcketv Hesaketv

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

August 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 11
ELECTION PREVIEW

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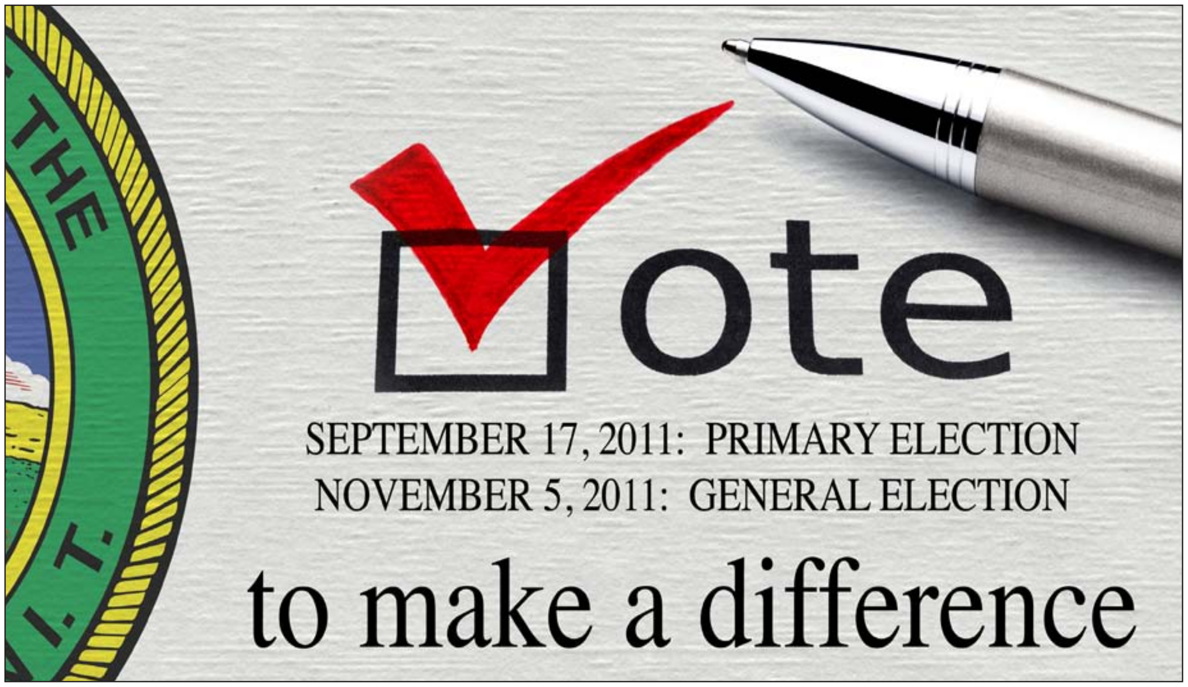
The Mvskoke Vote 2011

• Election Board encourages absentee voting


Vote
SEPTEMBER 17, 2011: PRIMARY ELECTION
NOVEMBER 5, 2011: GENERAL ELECTION
to make a difference
THE
I. T.

Lee Longhorn
Muscogee Nation News

OKMULGEE — Forty-nine Muscogee (Creek) citizens have filed for the offices of Principal Chief, Second Chief and Seat A on the National Council.

Muscogee (Creek) voters are now eligible to vote for every elected office within the nation. A recent amendment to the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution reads, "Each eligible voter of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be allowed to vote for each and every National Council Representative."

This will be the first election that voters can elect a candidate from outside their district. Prior to this constitutional change, voters could only elect candidates within their district.

"Now, voters are voting for everybody. It's at-large voting," explained Nettie Harjo, Election Board Manager.

"It was before that, I'm an Okmulgee voter and I just voted for my Okmulgee representatives," Harjo said.

SEE VOTE - C13

Morris Indian Community officer elections set for Sept. 1, 2011

Media Release
Morris Indian Community

MORRIS — Morris Indian Community is making a public notice that elections will be held Sept. 1, 2011 at the Trinity Baptist Church in Morris, Okla.

If any Morris Indian Community member wishes to become a candidate for office, they must contact the Election Committee to make a formal request in writing.

Interested potential candidates may contact Monnie Underwood at (918) 706-8118 or Christine Durden at (918) 733-2615.

The deadline for applications is Aug. 11, 2011 and the election will be held Sept. 1, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

TCIC Business Board officer elections set for Sept. 2011

Media Release
Tulsa Creek Indian Community

TULSA — An election for the TCIC Business Board is scheduled for Sept. 2011.

The TCIC Business Board is responsible for the management and supervision of all business enterprises of the community and shall report directly to TCIC including oversight of the financial operations of the community. The board consists of five (5) officers elected in accordance with Art. Vll, TCIC Constitution.

Chairperson shall preside over all meetings; present all communications to the Board of Directors; delegate duties to each Officer as necessary; Vice-Chairperson shall act in absence of Chairperson provided a quorum is met; Secretary shall maintain a full report of all proceedings; Treasurer shall oversee books of accounts, receipts and other financial responsibilities; Sergeant-of-Arms shall maintain order during meetings.

Interested candidates filed Letters of Intent with the TCIC Election Committee at 8611 S. Union, in Tulsa July 1-15, 2011.

For more information, please contact TCIC at (918) 298-2464.

A2 LEGAL
MCN District Court filings

A3 LEGAL
Legal Notice: CV 2011-108

A4 CAPITOL NEWS
Veterans' Scoop

A6 SOCIAL SERVICES
District Court Judge honored with national award

A7 CAPITOL NEWS
MCN represented at the White House

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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Ellis weighs in on 2011 election season

Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — After twenty years of service to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis will no longer hold or seek public office. Ellis' term ends Dec. 31, 2011.

"Never dreamed I'd be here at all. Never ever dreamed it," Ellis said in his office. Ellis, 76, has served for the past twenty years in both the executive and legislative branches.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

In July, 49 candidates filed for the office of Principal Chief, Second Chief and Seat A on the National Council.

"It's a bunch of them," Ellis commented. "I wasn't lucky enough to have that many opponents when I was running."

In 2003, Ellis was first elected to the Office of Principal Chief. He served under Chief Perry Beaver as Second Chief from 2000-2004. Prior to that, Ellis was a representative for the Okmulgee District.

Reflecting on the past two decades in public office, Ellis remarked on ways he tried to better serve the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"I've always, ever since I have been here, have tried to get jobs and economic development and tried to get the money put into an enterprise."

Ellis' administration saw a budget increase in social services programs.

"Right now, our citizens get a lot of benefits. I've always thought they got too much," Ellis said. "Maybe not, because without the people, we don't have a tribe; we don't have a nation."

After serving on the National Council, Ellis knew that it would take both branches of government to work together.

"When you look back, in spite of all that's happened, we have worked together a lot."

Among the biggest projects completed are the Multipurpose Building at the Claude Cox Omniplex and the new College of Muscogee Nation building.

Yet, after all his time in office, Ellis attributes much of his success to the support of his staff.

"I've had a lot of good help," Ellis said. "I've had a lot of good directors, managers. My staff in this office, I wouldn't put them behind anybody."

But behind every great leader is someone close to them that supports them and stands by them through thick or thin.

"You gotta have a good wife to stand behind you in all this because they pay for it too," Ellis said about his wife, Gail. "The first lady of this nation, whoever they are, got a job to do also."

After his term ends, Ellis is looking forward to retiring and returning to his farm on his mother's original allotment.

"There's nothing like planting something and seeing it come up; seeing an old cow in the spring time with a baby calf," Ellis continued. "I can go out there and work or I can sit under a tree, it's my life."

Ellis' term as chief and his thoughts on serving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation date back to his mother.

"When I was a little kid, I'd ask Mama, 'What's the biggest thing you've done in your life?' She'd say, 'Well, one time I met the Creek Chief Pleasant Porter.'"

Despite all the challenges and achievements during his time in office, Ellis felt good about his work.

"I'll be 76 when I leave this office," he said. "I'm just happy to have [had] a chance to serve the tribe."

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from April 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011 are as follows:

Divorce:

Ashlee Clark v. Antray Clark	Divorce
Megan Ratliff v. West Ratliff	Divorce
Beatrice Clark v. Terrance Clark Jr.	Divorce
Maxine McHenry v. Danny McHenry	Divorce
Sandra Meister v. James Meister	Divorce
Sharmaine Vasquez v. Manuel Vasquez	Divorce
April Brocato v. Anthony Brocato	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Nancy Park v. Mark Park	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Sheila Santos v. Victor Flores	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Keysha Brewer v. Jeremy Berryhill	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Misty Rogers v. Otis Dunn	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Lashonda Joseph v. Jeffrey Adams	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Candy Sadler v. Matthew Scott	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Rhiana Ford v. Kenneth Hall	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Etta Checotah v. Pamela Checotah	Ex-Parte
Rikki Bates v. Kevin Bates	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

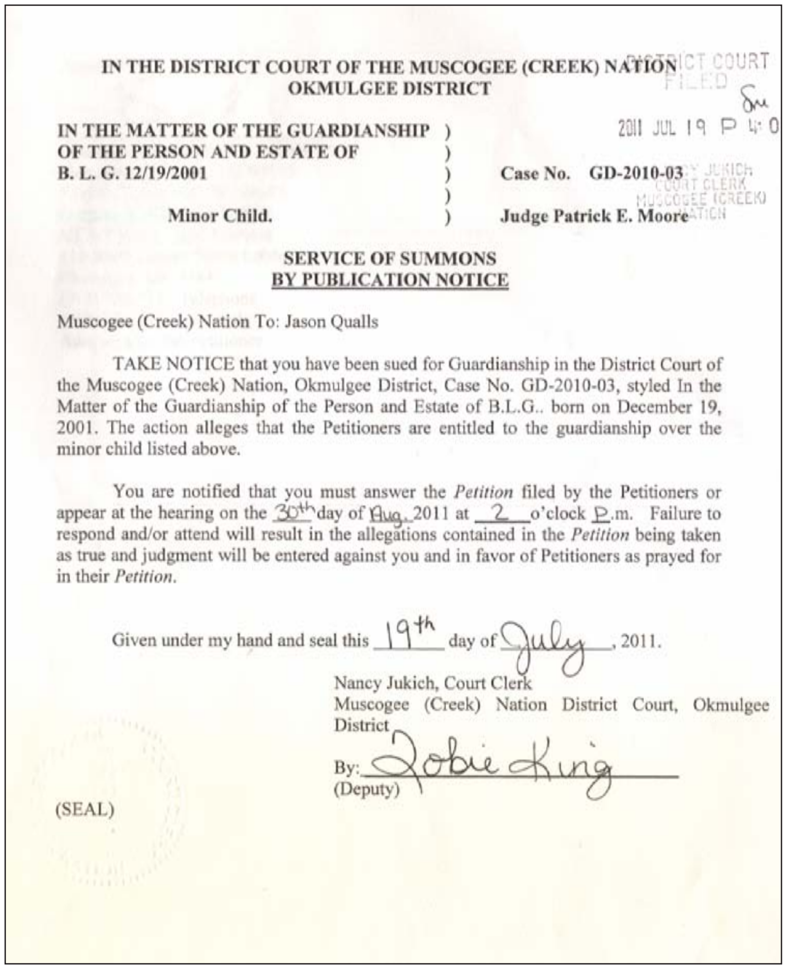
MCN v. Jack No Ear	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Jennifer Fools	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Susan Sheppard	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
MCN v. Frank Stephens	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
MCN v. Edmond Warrington	Ct. 1: Bribery
MCN v. Dana Johnson	Ct. 1: Bribery
	Ct. 2: Bribery
	Ct. 3: Bribery
MCN v. Gene Lee	Ct. 1: Bribery
	Ct. 2: Bribery
	Ct. 3: Bribery
MCN v. Brian McElroy	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

Traffic:

MCN v. Gerald Ogans	Failure to Yield Right of Way
MCN v. Samuel Little	No Insurance
MCN v. Samuel Little	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jon Hockenson	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Samantha Beummet	Expired Tag
MCN v. Shawn Huston	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Sherri Villines	No Insurance
MCN v. Geogia Walker	Disorderly Conduct



DISTRICT COURT
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2011 JUL 19 P 4:0

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF)
B. L. G. 12/19/2001) Case No. GD-2010-03
)
Minor Child.) Judge Patrick E. Moore

Y JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
ATION

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Jason Qualls

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD-2010-03, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of B.L.G.. born on December 19, 2001. The action alleges that the Petitioners are entitled to the guardianship over the minor child listed above.

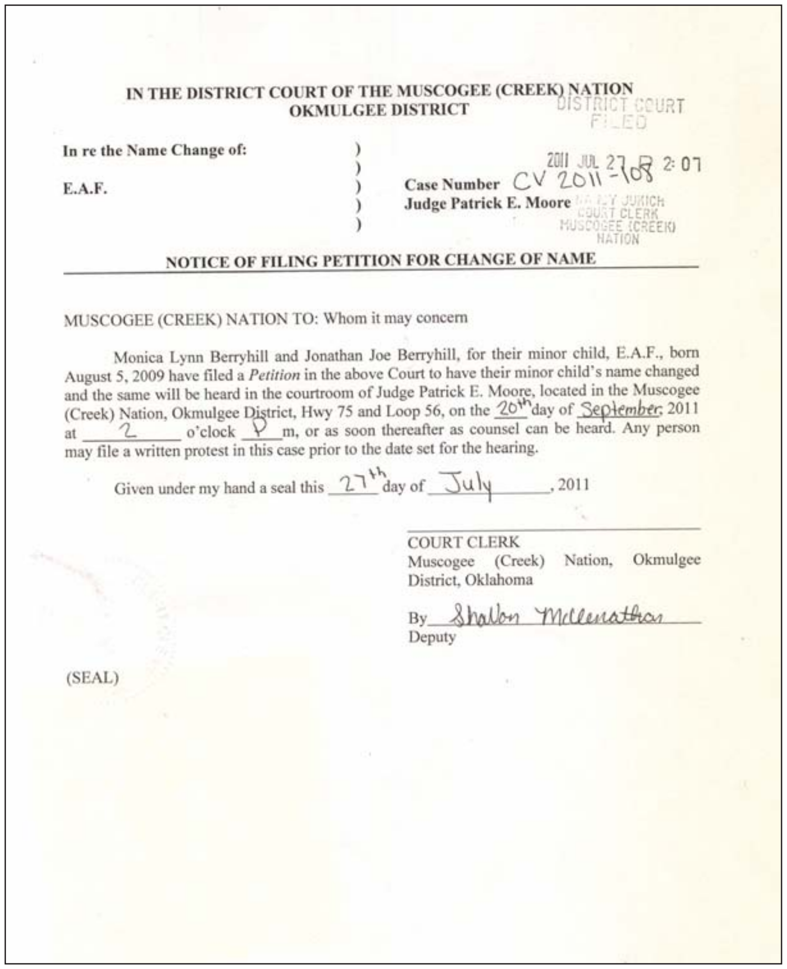
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioners or appear at the hearing on the 30th day of Aug. 2011 at 2 o'clock P.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioners as prayed for in their *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 19th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2011 JUL 27 P 2:07

In re the Name Change of:)
)
E.A.F.) Case Number CV 2011-108
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

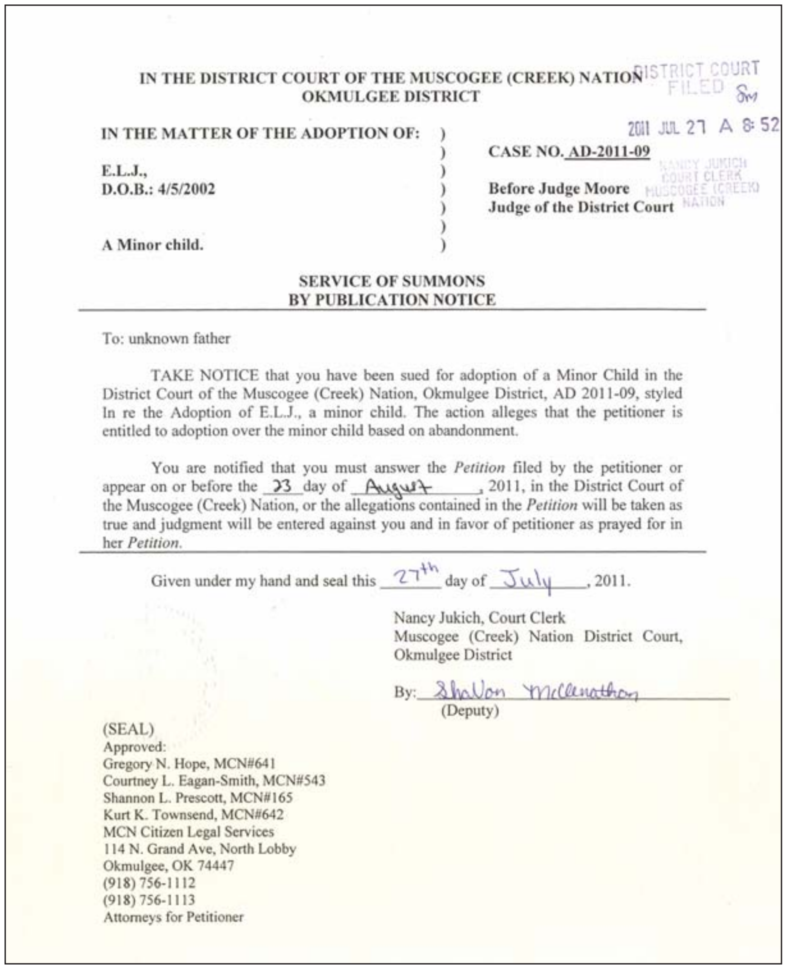
Monica Lynn Berryhill and Jonathan Joe Berryhill, for their minor child, E.A.F., born August 5, 2009 have filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have their minor child's name changed and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Hwy 75 and Loop 56, on the 20th day of September, 2011 at 2 o'clock P m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 27th day of July, 2011

COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma

By Shallon McClenathan
Deputy

(SEAL)



DISTRICT COURT
FILED Sm
2011 JUL 27 A 8:52

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:)
) CASE NO. AD-2011-09
E.L.J.,)
D.O.B.: 4/5/2002) Before Judge Moore
) Judge of the District Court
)
A Minor child.)

NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: unknown father

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for adoption of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, AD 2011-09, styled In re the Adoption of E.L.J., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to adoption over the minor child based on abandonment.

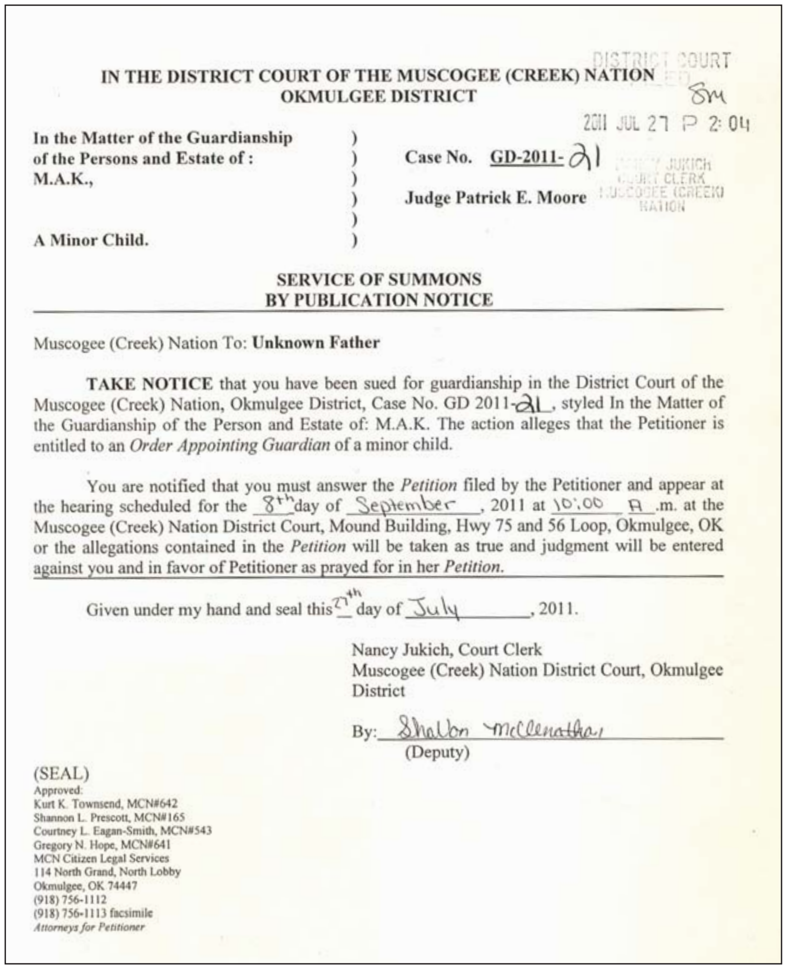
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on or before the 23 day of August, 2011, in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 27th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner



DISTRICT COURT
Sm
2011 JUL 27 P 2:04

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estate of :) Case No. GD-2011-21
M.A.K.,)
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)
A Minor Child.)

JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: **Unknown Father**

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD 2011-21, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: M.A.K. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to an *Order Appointing Guardian* of a minor child.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 8th day of September, 2011 at 10:00 A.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 27th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Hiyet os! If you live in Okla., I hope you're doing your best to stay indoors in this record-breaking, triple-digit heat. If you live in Calif., can I please rent a room for the rest of the summer?

Speaking of our brothers and sisters in the West, the annual California Muscogee (Creek) Association Gathering is coming up this month on Saturday, Aug. 6. It is always a pleasure to interact with Creeks living outside of the jurisdictional boundaries and hearing their take on what's going on in the nation. I am looking forward to the laughs and fellowship that come with the gathering of Creeks in one place.

This gathering will also be the site of the very first candidate forum for Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council Representative candidates. If you're unable to make it to Anaheim, don't worry; there will be several other opportunities to get to know the candidates as well.

This edition of the Muscogee Nation News also includes a calendar with community forums planned throughout the month of Aug. I also encourage you to check out the candidate profiles located in the back of the MNN.

Mvto to all those who provided their information in a timely manner so we could get to work and share this news with the Mvskoke people.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop:

Motorcycle Ride and Pass-in-Review set for Fall 2011

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

Motorcycle ride set for Friday, Oct. 15

OKMULGEE — VASO will be hosting a Muscogee veteran motorcycle ride on Friday, Oct. 14, 2011 at 5 p.m.

We will assemble at 1500 at the Veterans Building. From the Veterans Building, in formation we will be traveling to the 5 and Diner restaurant in Tulsa.

After dinner, we will then travel to the Admiral Twin Drive-In theater for a movie. Muscogee Veteran motorcycle riders are allowed to bring one guest but the guest must ride with the veteran.

VASO will pay for the dinner and the movie. Please call Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739 to confirm your participation.

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

Pass-in-Review set for Nov. 5, 2011

OKMULGEE — This year in celebration of Veteran's Day, we will conduct a Pass-in-Review march as is the same with the United States of America Nov. 10, 2011.

The newly-elected and outgoing President is granted the honor of having the United States military Pass-in-Review. We are no different.

The purpose of a Pass-in-Review is to honor the elected civilian leadership and to confirm to all, the military is under command and control of the civilian officials.

We will conduct a Pass-in-Review to honor Principal Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, and our newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

The order of march will be Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps.

We plan on casting 400 commemorative coins to be given to participating Muscogee veterans after the march. The coins will have the Muscogee (Creek)seal and Veterans Office.

Coins numbers 1/400 will be given to Principal Chief Ellis, coin 2/400 will be given to Second Chief Berryhill, 399/400 will be given to the newly elected Second Chief and 400/400 will be given to the newly-elected Principal Chief.

The symbolism of these coins' numbers to our chiefs is to confirm the military is within command and control of our civilian officials.

We will assemble at 10 a.m. Nov. 10, 2011 at the Veterans Building where we will form and rehearse until 12 p.m. Chow is from 12-1 p.m. From 1-2 p.m., we will conduct a dry run and last minute adjustments. At 2 p.m., we will conduct a Pass-in-Review, which will be from VASO to the east of the Mound Building.

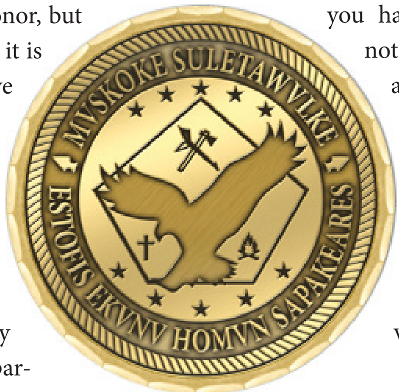
Please contact VASO your commemorative coin may be reserved. In closing, we march once every four years to honor the peaceful transition of power in our tribe; it should be honored and will be protected and recognized by us, the veterans of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

God bless our Muscogee Veterans, our Muscogee (Creek) Nation and our continued peaceful political process.

The Veterans' Scoop features articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

MCN veterans urged to participcate in upcoming election

Ken Davis
Director, VASO



OKMULGEE — We have fought and served in the military all over the world, and sometimes we were just unable to vote. It is a privilege and honor, but more importantly it is a duty that we have sacrificed for and earned.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal elections are forthcoming; democracy only works when we participate. If you haven't registered to vote, register now.

Perhaps it is easier not to vote and let others decide the election, those who cast their votes do indeed have the right to criticize and compliment. In recent years, our voter turnout has been abysmal.

For those of you who say you have no impact, or nothing changes, you are wrong. Our next elected tribal leaders will be engaged, responsible, and responsive. All you have to do is vote.

Ask the candidates questions, voice concerns and recommendations then get out and vote. Far too often we rely on rumors instead of getting solid facts. Your vote must always be based on informed and timely with all the facts.

We, as Muscogee Veterans, truly should be the first in line when the voting stations are opened. Muscogee Veterans are the military arm of our tribe. We have the privilege of electing our leaders and our role after that is to be under the command and control of our civilian officials.

Hold very close and protect our continued gift of voting. We all know the right to vote has been earned with blood, sweat, and tears. In summation, if you do not vote, Muscogee Veterans, you really should remain quiet in criticisms and compliments.

God bless and be thankful for our Muscogee Veterans, our tribe and our vote.

Bristow Indian Community urged to update contact information

Media Release
MCN Community Development

OKMULGEE — The Community Research and Development Department has been providing periodic update information to the Bristow Indian Community members.

Please update your address by contacting Community Research and Development at (918) 732-7963 or email dbillie@muscogeenation-nsn.gov .

The department has received returned mail for the following Bristow Indian Community members:

Barnett, Jacob (Jake)
Bigpond, Valencia S.
Bruner, Lewis Jr.
Buckley, Brittany
Burgess, Charlotte Marie
Craig, Lowell T. Jr.
Craig, Suzanne M. (Mayberry)
Cromwell, Shawn J.
Cooper, Brandon David
Doblebower, Jeryn Juanita (Tilley)
Dobson, Jennifer L. (Fife)
Donaldson, Melinda Irene (Murphy)
Harjo, Stanley E.
Harper, Cody
Harris, Judy Ann (Williams)
Hill, Chapman
James Charlotte
Jefferson, Patricia Ann
Kissee, Becky
McNac, Royce Jean (Wheeler)
Mayberry, Curtis
Mayberry, Larry Don
Mayberry, Eddie
Mayberry, Dorothy
Mayberry, Larry Don
Miller, Patrick
Miller, Quint Henry III
Miller, Randall
Miller, Tiffany
Murphy, Floyd Wayne
Ralston, Amanda
Riley, Jerry G.
Riley, Beaver
Ross, John R.
Sanders, Heather
Sands, Carl
Sexton, Billy Ray Jr.
Shelton, Tonya (Marsey)
Spottedbird, Chiquitta M.
Vandecar, Ryan
Vandecar, Troy Lee
Van Orsdol, Deborah Lynn
Wesley, Beverly Ranee (Hill)

Social Services Aug. Field Schedule

Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	2nd Thursday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	3rd Wednesday of month
Eufaula	Skating Rink 9:00 am – 11:00 am	3rd Tuesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	4th Thursday of month
Koweta	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	2nd Tuesday of month
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	2nd Wednesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	3rd Thursday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	2nd Wednesday of month
Wetumka	Food Distribution 9:00 am – 11:00 am	1st Thursday of month

HISTORY AT 8:17PM
IN THE KITCHEN
AFTER PIANO PRACTICE

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WIC Breast-feeding Spotlight: The Rogers' Family

Photo courtesy/*MCN WIC*

Pictured above is the Rogers' Family, mother Kerri, father Joshua and sons Caden (left) and Caige.

Media Release
MCN WIC Program

OKMULGEE — Kerri Rogers is the mother of two boys, Caden and Caige.

She breastfed her oldest son Caden for over a year and is still breastfeeding Caige, who turned one in May.

Her husband Joshua is very supportive and proud that she chose to breastfeed their children. Kerri also has the support of her parents who told her breastfeeding was best for her and her babies.

She will quickly tell you that "breastfeeding is normal nutrition for babies, it is free, convenient and nothing tops the nutritional value of breast milk."

Kerri admits the first month is hard. Mothers are still recovering from the labor and baby needs to breastfeed often as a newborn. But Rogers set a goal to breastfeed for at least a year, and every week got easier and then she enjoyed breastfeeding.

Kerri has noticed that "breastfed children reach milestones faster and are developmentally ahead of children who are not breastfed." Research adamantly supports her observations.

When asked about breastfeeding in public, Kerri replied that she just tries to be discreet in case others are not comfortable with it. But she knows it's the right thing to do and will continue to breastfeed until she and baby Caige are ready to wean.

Kerri cannot imagine not breastfeeding her children. "I love the bond I have with my boys and have a closeness that would not be there if I had not breastfed."

What advice does Kerri have for pregnant or breastfeeding women?

"Breastfeeding is best for babies. If you need help or advice to breastfeed then ask for it, because it's worth it. Be informed on how to breastfeed, and know where to get support and help."

For more infromation on breastfeeding or the Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program, please contact the office at (918) 758-2722.

Moore receives national tribal award for child support enforcement efforts

Media Release
National Tribal Child Support Association

OKMULGEE — The 11th Annual National Tribal Child Support Association (NTCSA) Training Conference & Annual Membership Meeting was held June 26-30, 2011 in Denver, Colo.

This year the event was hosted by the Child Support Enforcement Office for the Northern Arapaho Tribe. Every year, the association recognizes the efforts of various people in the pursuit of child support.

The Judges Award for Professional Excellence is an award given to a judge who has exceeded the efforts of tribal child support enforcement. This year, the Association awarded the Judges Award to the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court.

Moore has developed the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court into one of the most sophisticated tribal courts in the country. The willingness and extra effort put forth by Moore in support of the MCN Office of Child Support Enforcement is endless. From creating a special docket to accommodate the child support program to ensuring the fair and equal treatment of citizens in each and every case, Moore is well-deserving of the award.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Support Enforcement on behalf of the National Tribal Child Support Association presented the award to Judge Moore July 7, 2011. The Office of Child Support Enforcement staff members present were: Kim Jones, Office Manager; Stephanie Cockrum, Case Specialist I; Blair Shackelton, Finance Specialist; Cheryl Najera, Assistant Director, and Michelle King, Case Specialist II.

MCN/*Chris Azbell*

Pictured above are staff members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Support Enforcement with District Court Judge Patrick E. Moore (center).

Keepseagle settlement information

Media Release
Keepseagle

OKMULGEE — A $760 million settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been reached in the *Keepseagle v. Vilsack* class action lawsuit.

The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans by denying them equal access to credit in the USDA Farm Loan Program.

The lawsuit claims that the USDA denied thousands of Native American farmers and ranchers the same opportunities to get farm loans or loan servicing that were given to white farmers and ranchers.

You may be eligible for a payment of up to $50,000 or more and forgiveness of some or all outstanding USDA loans if you qualify as a class member.

The Class includes all Native American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch between Jan. 1, 1981 and Nov. 24, 1999; and
- Sought, or attempted to seek, a farm loan from the USDA during that period; and
- Complained about discrimination to the USDA orally or in writing on their own or through a representative, such as a tribal government, during that same time period.

A schedule of meetings for the month of July that will be held to assist class members with submitting Track A claims is located on this page as requested by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Trust Services

For more information check out the *Keepseagle v. Vilsack* settlement Web site at indianfarmersclass.com

MCN School Clothing Program applications now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, will be accepting applications for school clothing beginning Monday, May 2, 2011. Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of October 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek Citizen students no matter where you live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program consist of:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least 3 years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be 4 years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade. All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.
- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200.00. (Example: If you received $400.00 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350.00, you will be eligible to receive $200.00.) Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.00.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

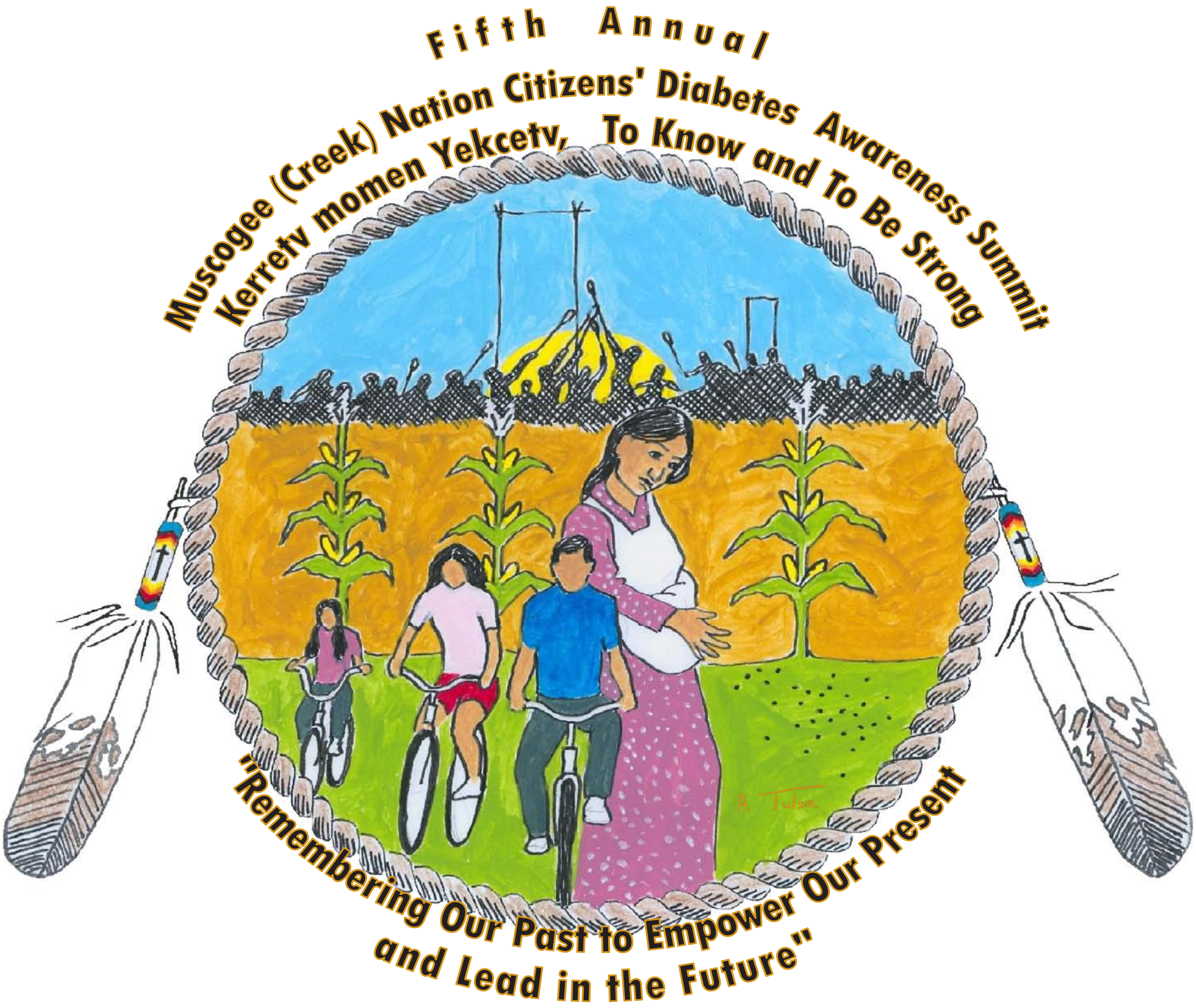
- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social

Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center.
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center.
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447. Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.


Fifth Annual
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit
Kerretv momen Yekcetv, To Know and To Be Strong
"Remembering Our Past to Empower Our Present and Lead in the Future"

Fifth Annual MCN Citizens' Diabetes Summit
August 26, 2011
First Christian Church in Sapulpa

MCN Museum staff visits White House as part of Let’s Move in Indian Country initiative

Media Release
MCN Museum Oversight Committee

CREEK NATION

MCN Museum Oversight Committee/*Betty Gerber*
Pictured above from left to right are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum and Cultural Center Asst. Director Justin Giles and Director John Beaver in front of the White House.

WASHINGTON, D.C., — On Monday July 11, 2011, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was present on the South Lawn of the White House as part of a multi-tribal delegation participating in an event highlighting First Lady Michelle Obama’s Let’s Move in Indian Country initiative. This initiative is dedicated to eliminating childhood obesity through physical activity, healthy food choices, and education promoting a healthy lifestyle.

The event showcased the Iroquois sport of Lacrosse and its sister variations from the Great Lakes region as well as the southeastern Muscogee version of stickball. Muscogee representatives from the tribe’s MCN Museum and Cultural Center, Director John Beaver and Assistant Director Justin Giles, received an invitation to participate while assisting in the preliminary stages of planning this event.

Beaver and Giles were invited to attend and to explain the Native American origins of the lacrosse game to Native youth from Baltimore, the Menominee Nation, and the Cherokee Nation, Eastern Band as well as youth from the District of Columbia and Annapolis. They also had the opportunity to make a gift of Muscogee (Creek) ball sticks to President Obama and the American people.

Beaver and Giles accepted the invitation and welcomed the opportunity to represent the Nation respectfully to promote the Muscogee heritage and culture. Mr. Beaver and Mr. Giles were inspired by the sight of the 80 plus kids being exposed to Native culture on the South Lawn while enduring the Oklahoma-esque heat. Especially endearing¬ was the sight of Muscogee ball sticks being used in the spirit of cultural sharing and education.

Stickball was historically played in broad geographic areas including the northeast and the Great Lakes regions and extending into the southeast. Since so many tribes played the game, many variations exist, but more importantly, many tribes continue to play stickball today.

The event was part of Mrs. Obama’s Let’s Move! In Indian Country (LMIC) initiative to eliminate childhood obesity by promoting physical activity and healthy eating habits. She would like to end obesity among Native American children within one generation. Native American children are the most likely ethnic group to suffer from obesity and related illnesses, such as diabetes.

The White House and the Department of the Interior organized the event and brought together players from the Iroquois Nationals Team, Major League Lacrosse, the National Lacrosse League, and Metro Lacrosse.

Approximately 100 children watched demonstrations of the lacrosse game. Interest in lacrosse as an organized school, college, and professional sport is on the rise, and Native Americans can take pride in knowing that the modern sport of lacrosse is an adaptation of our very old game of stickball.

To learn more about Let’s Move! In Indian Country, visit www.letsmove.gov/indiancountry

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Budget cuts force reduced public hours to Social Security

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — Effective Aug. 15, 2011, the Okmulgee Social Security office will be open to the public Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – a reduction of 30 minutes each weekday, due to recent Congressional budget cuts.

While agency employees will continue to work their regular hours, this shorter public window will allow them to complete face-to-face service with the visiting public without incurring the cost of overtime.

Congress provided Social Security with nearly $1 billion less than the President requested for the budget this fiscal year, which makes it impossible for the agency to provide the amount of overtime needed to handle service to the public as we have in the past.

Most Social Security services do not require a visit to an office. For example, anyone wishing to apply for benefits, sign up for direct deposit, replace a Medicare card, obtain a proof of income letter or inform us of a change of address or telephone number may do so at www.socialsecurity.gov or by dialing our toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778.

‘Doing Business in Indian Country’ celebrates ninth year

Media Release
MCN District Court

TULSA — The 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court will host the ninth annual Continuing Legal Education (C.L.E.) courses Aug. 18-19 at the Tulsa River Spirit Event Center.

The courses will provide 14 hours of CLE credit including one hour of ethics. Some of the faculty members include:

Hon. Jerry McPeak, Oklahoma State Representative, MCN Tax Commissioner; Judith V. Royster, JD, Professor of Law, University of Tulsa; Rick Moore, JD, Rick D. Moore and Associates, Norman, Okla.; Tim Pleasant, JD, Professor of Law, Concord Law School of Kaplan University; Alissa Hurley, JD, Partner – Connors and Winters LLP, Tulsa Oklahoma; Dr. Jim Collard, Director Economic Development -Potawatomi Nation; John Williams, JD, Partner – Connors and Winters LLP, Tulsa Okla.; Andrew Adams, III, JD, Jacobson, Buffalo, Magnuson, Anderson, Hogen, P.C.; Rod Wiemer, JD, Special Prosecutor, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Attorney General’s Office.

Tuition will be $225 or $250 for walk-in registration (if space is available). Cost includes lunch at Visions Buffett.

Cancellations will be accepted at any time prior to the seminar date, however, a cancellation fee of $50 will be charged. Registration form is available on-line at www.muscogeecreektribalcourt.org and page A8 of the *MNN*.

For more information contact the MCN District Court at (918) 758-1400 or by email at mvskoke@aol.com

FEATURES

Annual summit to focus on food

• MCN Diabetes Summit set for Aug. 26 in Sapulpa

Media Release
MCN Diabetes Prevention Program

SAPULPA — “Nutrition, Nutrition, Nutrition.”

“That is what we want to learn at this year’s Summit.”

“We want to know how to make healthy food taste good.”

“We want to know how different foods raise blood sugar.”

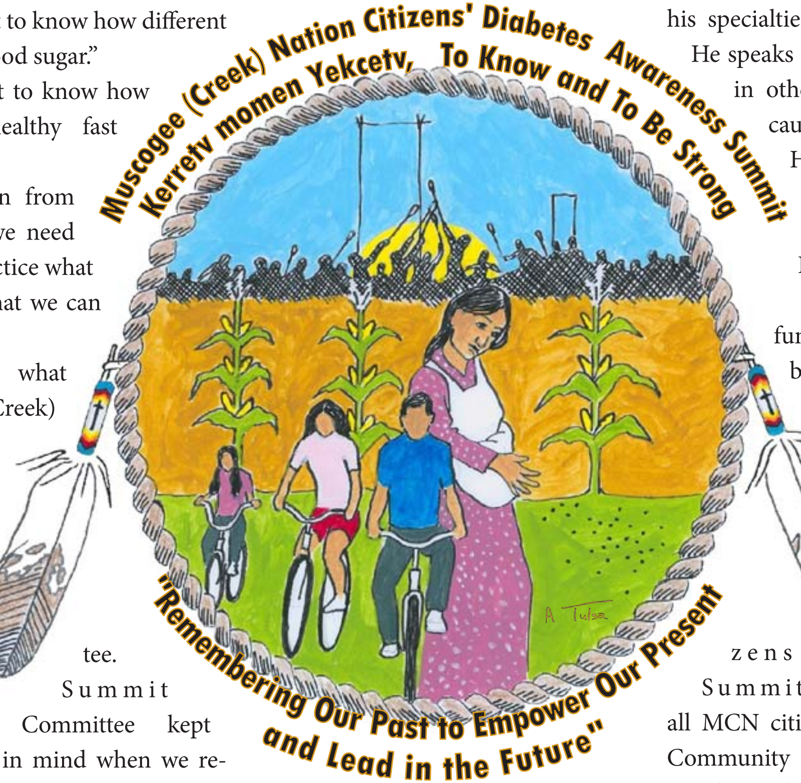
“We want to know how to choose healthy fast foods.”

“We learn from lectures but we need to time to practice what we learn so that we can do it at home.”

This is what Muscogee (Creek) Nation community members told the Summit Planning committee.

The Summit Planning Committee kept those request in mind when we reduced the number of lectures and increased the number of nutrition activities in this year’s Summit. Presenters will add learning activities that allow participants to practice what they have learned.

Of course, diabetes education is not just learning about foods. There will be a variety of other topics in which to participate. Among them will be Tai Chi, Yoga, and traditional dance as well as the Twist and Zumba. Physical activity games while wearing heart monitors will let us know when we are improving heart health. Will Hill will make us laugh. Darryl Tonemah will challenge us to find ways to win back our health. Our neighbors and leaders will encourage us by their stories and words.


Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit
Kerretv momen Yekcetv, To Know and To Be Strong
"Remembering Our Past to Empower Our Present and Lead in the Future"
A Tulsa

Dr. Stephen Ponder is our diabetes expert this year. He knows diabetes from personal and professional experience. He has lived with type 1 diabetes for 44 years and is also a children’s diabetes specialist. One of his specialties is childhood obesity. He speaks throughout the US and in other countries about the causes and cure of obesity. His keynote address will be, “Preventing Obesity Starts with Our Kids “.

The Muscogee Nation funds the Citizens’ Diabetes Summit annually. This year, the northern MCN Charter Communities will host the Fifth Annual MCN Citizens Diabetes Summit. However, all MCN citizens are welcome. Community members from Tulsa, Sapulpa and Bristow and the Diabetes Program staff are planning the Summit.

We hope you plan to attend. In addition to a great learning experience, it is free, a healthy lunch will be served and you may win a great door prize!

OCMA to host MCN Candidate Forum Aug. 13

Media Release
OCMCA

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association (OCMA) will host a moderated Muscogee (Creek) Nation Candidate Forum Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Glorieta Baptist Church Gymnasium located at 7308 S. Western, in Oklahoma City, Okla.

All Muscogee (Creek) Nation candidates running for office are invited to participate in the forum.

The purpose of the forum is to give candidates an opportunity to address issues vital to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens who reside in Oklahoma City or outside the boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

There will be opportunities for the audience to ask questions during the forum. The goal is to offer voting citizens the opportunity to make an informed election decision.

For more information, please contact Ruby Harjo at (405) 808 - 6387.

Bristow Indian Community to elect officers Sept. 3

Media Release
MCN Community Development

BRISTOW — The Bristow Indian Community Election will be held Sept. 3, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Bristow Indian Community Center, located at 710 S. Main in Bristow. The deadline for filing for candidacy will be Aug. 12, 2011.

Current candidates are:
Charley Simmers – Chairman, Jason Bigpond - Chairman, JoAnna Wacoche – Chairman, Mitchell Fischer – Vice Chairman, Jason Bigpond – Vice Chairman, JoAnna Wacoche – Vice Chairman, Ceilla Sexton – Vice Chairman, Rachel Little – Secretary/Treasurer

The deadline for applying for membership or updating membership information is Aug. 24, 2011. Membership applications may be picked up at the BIC Smoke Shop and faxed to CR&D at (918) 732-7971.

After the election, MCN Community Research & Development, along with MCN departments and agencies will provide a series of workshops for the new officers. The pending date for Proclamation Release will be Sept. 20, 2011.

For more information, contact MCN Community Research & Development at (918) 732-7963.

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country: *Participating with Nature*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

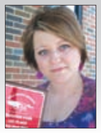
23rd Annual Marshall Reunion

B4 HISTORY

And Still the Waters Run: *Fort Toulouse*

B5 SPOTLIGHT

Creek journalist awarded top honor



B6 EDITORIAL

Emponayv by Gary Fife

Mvskoke Country: *Participating with Nature*

by James Treat

Anyone who studies traditional ecological knowledge learns to appreciate the vitality of indigenous languages.

“The way we talk about a place or other entity reflects how we feel, how we see, how we understand, and most important, how we think in reference to it,” writes Tewa educator Gregory Cajete. “Language itself is a reflection of how we organize and perceive the world,” but it also “conditions the mind toward particular ends. . . . Until recently, the power of language to condition thought either toward participation with nature or away from it has been largely ignored.”

“Native languages echo the natural reality of a universe that is alive and creative,” and they are “intimately tied to the landscape that has inspired their development.”

There is ample evidence of participation with nature preserved in *este-cate em opunvkv,* the Mvskoke language. The months of the year are named for important moments in the annual round of subsistence: seasonal observations and activities related to agricultural production, but also times for gathering the fruit of undomesticated plants. An older way of life is signified by *em vliketv* that define Mvskoke kinship and by *opvnkv* performed at Mvskoke ceremonial grounds: various clans and dances mostly named for animals, many of which provided sustenance to our hunter-gatherer ancestors. Even the phrase *este-cate em opunvkv,* literally “red people, their talk,” uses sensory metaphors—visual and aural—to describe itself.

The Mvskoke language is an organic element of a living landscape. As Cajete says, it is “more than a code; it is a way of participating with each other and the natural world.”

Mvskoke words were planted on paper in the 1730s by Salzburger settlers living near the Savannah River. This written tongue grew sporadically in the old country, but Mvskoke literacy really blossomed after removal to Indian Territory, largely because general education was conducted in the Mvskoke language.

“As a result of the missionary schools,” writes linguist Jack Martin, “many Creeks and Seminoles were literate by the end of the nineteenth century.” They wrote letters, laws, constitutions, newspaper articles, pamphlets, and other materials in the Mvskoke language, many of which have been archived at the University of Tulsa, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the University of Oklahoma, and the Gilcrease Museum.

Written Mvskoke withered in the wake of Oklahoma statehood. The spoken word fell into disuse more gradually, but “by the 1970s the Creek language was in serious decline.” This prompted the recording and publication of various language materials—first by Mvskoke citizens, then by professional linguists. The latest, and perhaps most important, of these post-English resources was authored by Martin with the assistance of Margaret Mauldin and Juanita McGirt: A Grammar of Creek (Muskogee) offers the most comprehensive analysis of the language to date.

Like many American Indian languages, Mvskoke is an action-oriented medium whose grammar revolves around verbs. “A great deal of information can be conveyed with a single word in Creek,” because the language has “a complex system of grades” in verb stems, which are further modified by a large number of prefixes and suffixes. Conjugating a Mvskoke verb is not for the faint of heart; the sample paradigms in Martin’s book run to 13 pages listing more than 350 forms of the stem *wvnvy-*, “tie.” European languages, on the other hand, are generally more noun-oriented and tend to frame reality as an assortment of objects. To put this more succinctly: English emphasizes the things being tied, whereas Mvskoke focuses attention on the act of tying.

The practical significance of this distinction comes into view if we recall the history of Western environmental science.

Like other modern disciplines, the scientific field of ecology has evolved considerably over the past century or so. It originated in an ancient tradition of Greek philosophy that regarded the natural world as static and stable, a worldview that was finally challenged by Charles Darwin. The naturalist forerunners of ecology concentrated on exploration and description, constructing elaborate taxonomies of plant and animal life. Early ecologists generally studied discrete entities: species, populations, habitats, communities. Only with the rise of a systems approach, which examines the movement of energy and nutrients through the various components of an ecosystem, has ecology developed an appreciation for complexity and interrelatedness comparable to that already intuited by indigenous peoples.

This ancestral awareness has often manifested in languages that stress actions rather than objects, connections rather than separations. While modern Mvskokes have mostly adapted to consumer culture, a more viable means of participating with nature can still be found in the language of Mvskoke country.

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

“The beat goes on.” In my teens that was the title and repeating refrain of a Sonny and Cher song. “Beat” also refers to the rhythm. It’s what literally holds us together, everyone, even beloved Earth. When someone gets sick, the rhythm is off somewhere in the body and spirit. “Beat” also refers to journalistic territory.

I’m back, on beat for our tribal paper. My beat is Indian country at large, and Indian country is vast. And my path in life seems to involve traveling around and getting to know people especially in Indian country. And everywhere I go I meet up with Creeks, or Mvskoke Nation expatriates.

The month of May I was in residence at Koahnic Broadcasting in Anchorage, Alaska. This is the home of one of my favorite radio stations, KNBA, a native station. David Sam, Athabascan spins great tunes on his show Indigenous Expressions, and used to hang out with Mvskoke citizen, the saxophone player Jim Pepper when Jim ran there years ago.

Danny Preston is another favorite DJ, or on-air host. And there’s the inimitable Shyanne Beatty, Athabascan producer and host of Earthsongs, a national native music program. While I was there I worked on a show idea, performed with a band at the Alaska Native Heritage Center on Mother’s Day, and traveled about giving performances in native communities.

One of my favorite places is Nome, a community at the edge of the Bering Sea. The first thing I saw when I got off the plane, after flying over ocean and ice break, was a man driving a pickup with a pet reindeer in the back. My friend, the writer, artist and healer MaryJane Litchfield and I watched walrus hunters go out into the sea to hunt, then she took me to the summer camps where drying racks were hanging with seal meat. The next day I traveled out onto the tundra with her son. We got close to musk oxen herds. The tundra smelled sweet. The spirit there was very strong.

Next I flew to Barrow, the northernmost point of the U.S., Inupiat territory. By mid May the sun was out twenty-four hours. I arrived at the end of whaling season. The morning I was there I walked around the town, saw a lemming, a kind of rodent, run under a stored boat. My favorite moment was hanging the Tuzzy Library with some young Inupiat boys, Steven Ivanoff and Eben Hopson.

One of our tribal members, Jim Pepper Henry, Jim Pepper’s nephew, is head of the Anchorage Museum in Anchorage. He took me on a tour of the museum, from the basement with its impressive heating system to the top floor with the mastodon exhibit. The museum is quite impressive. Not only are the roots of the indigenous cultures of Alaska beautifully acknowledged and displayed there, the museum also maintains a gallery of contemporary native artists. The operation is first class, and Pepper Henry does us proud. He is also in charge of his uncle’s affairs.

This reminds me, that on November 16th Jim Pepper, jazz player and world music innovator of the Mvskoke Nation will be inducted into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, right there in Tulsa. Jim Pepper Henry will be there. I plan to also be there to celebrate this honoring. When one of us is honored, everyone is honored. I hope to see you there.

I’ll be back in the Nation toward the end of August and look forward to visiting. Porky, you behave yourself.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MCN Head Start now accepting applications

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application. All races and ethnicities may apply.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept.1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

Derrick Deere Co-ed Softball Tournament

OKMULGEE — The Derrick Deere Memorial co-ed softball tournmanet will be held at the MCN omniplex August 26-28. The entry fee is $125 and the deadline to enter is Aug. 19.

For more information, please contact Elise: (918) 261-0838, Trina: (918) 759-8959, or Brandee: (918) 752-9040. The tournmanet is in memory of Derrick C. Deere.

Reintigration Coat Drive

HENREYETTA — The MCN Reintegration program is now accepting donations for the first annual coat drive. They are accepting gently new and used coats for men, women and children. Donations can be dropped of at the Reintegration Program located in Henryetta.

For more information, please contact Becky Billingsly at (800) 259-1059 or at (918) 652-2676.

Livestock Health Seminar and Workshop

STROUD — A Livestock and health seminar is being presented at the Sac & Fox Nation in Stroud, Okla., on Saturday, Aug. 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sac & Fox Nation headquarters are located 5.5 miles south of Stroud on Highway 99. Lunch will be provided. Other agencies will be present to discuss program opportunities such as the USDA, FSA, Langston University, NASS and NCRS. There will be door prizes such as feed for cattle, goats, etc.

For more information, please contact Zachary Butler, Intertribal Agriculture Council, at (405) 747-7665 or email at zbutler@indianaglink.com

Co-ed Volleyball Tournament and Health Fair Day

OKLAHOMA CITY — The All Tribes Veterans Program is sponsoring a co-ed volleyball tournament and health fair at the Oklahoma City Tribal Alliance Saturday, Aug. 6.

The event begins with a benefit breakfast at 7 a.m.

Bingo begins at 11 a.m. and is set at $0.25 a card. A checkers tournament will also be held for a $1 entry fee. Concessions will be available. The Oklahoma City Tribal Alliance is located at 5320 S Youngs Blv., in Oklahoma City.

For more inforamtion, contact (405) 681-0869.

23rd Annual Marshall Reunion

WETUMKA — The 23rd Lewis and Mary Marshall Reunion is set for Sept. 3, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church in Wetumka, Okla.

The event is hosted by the Tiger and Wells family. A main course of fried chicken and rolls will be served.

Families are asked to bring potato salad, baked beans or drinks and two adult gifts. Dessert and ice will be provided by the committee. Games will be available for all ages.

For more information, please call (918) 623-7356 or (405) 452-3248.

Chalakee-Berryhill Reunion

OKMULGEE — The annual Chalekee-Berryhill reunion will be held Sept. 2-4 at the Springtown United Methodist Church, east of Broken Arrow.

On Friday, Sept. 2, there will be a weinee roast and singing. Saturday evening is an auction and Sunday, there will be morning services, a catered lunch and activities for all ages. A talent show is scheduled for Sunday evening.

For more information, please call (918) 279-0869.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

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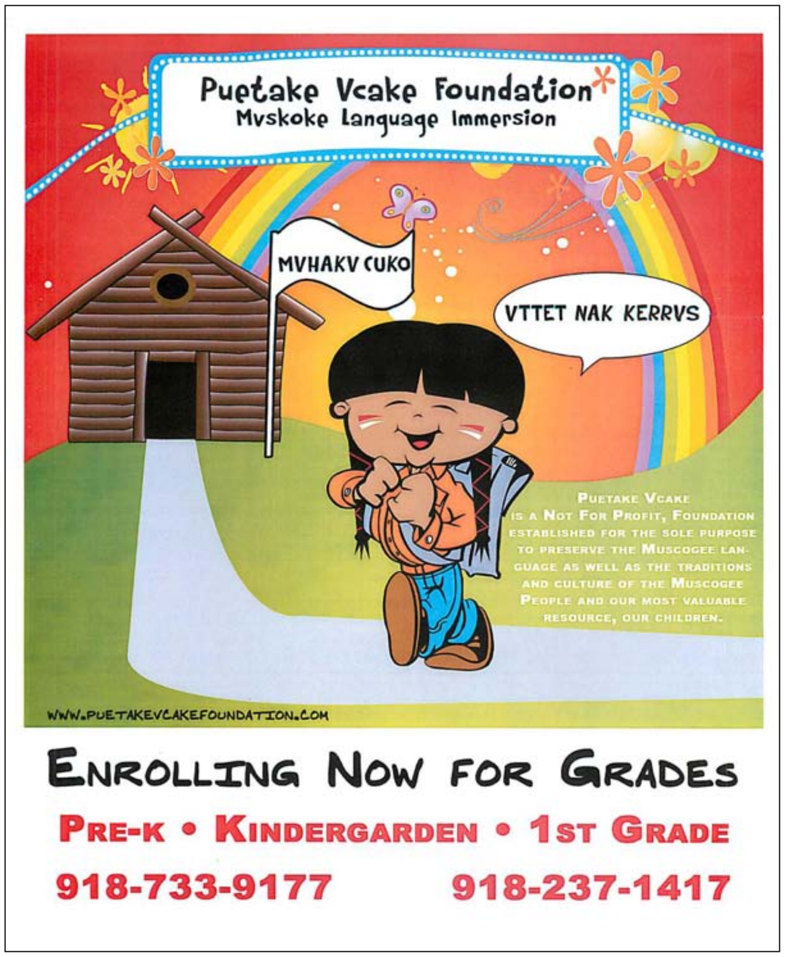
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And Still the Waters Run: *Fort Toulouse*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

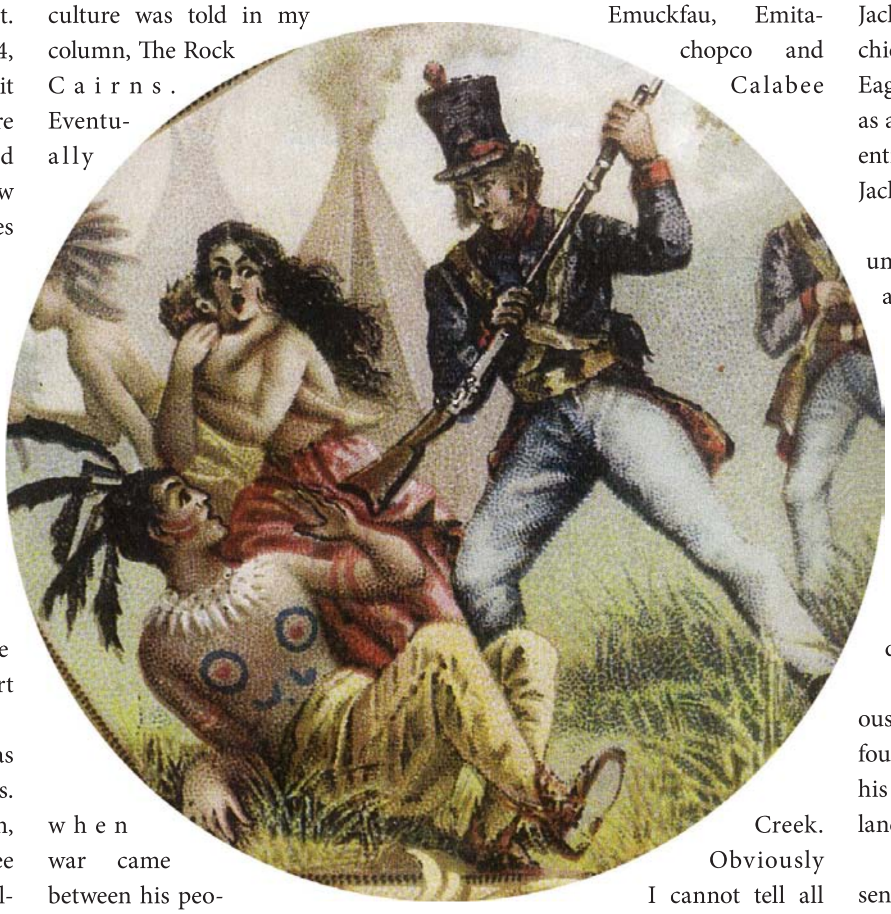
YORBA LINDA, Calif., — There are actually two forts, one built above the other, at the fork of the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, near Wetumpka, Alabama. I have no problem in sharing the name of Fort Toulouse, which was a stockade erected by the French in 1717 (rebuilt in 1735, when endangered by river erosion). I'm less than anxious in identifying the other fort. Built atop old Fort Toulouse in 1814, after the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, it was called Fort Jackson. It was there William Weatherford surrendered the Creek Nation and where Andrew Jackson wrested 20 million acres from our people.

Fort Toulouse served as a trading post until the end of the French and Indian War in 1763. One of the commanders of the fort was Captain Marchand. He met a pretty Native girl, Sehoy (I), who lived at the nearby Native village of Tuskegee. They had one child, a daughter also named Sehoy (II). Her father is said to have died a few years later in a mutiny. All the French eventually left. The old fort collapsed into ruin.

Sehoy (II) was a beauty (as was her mother) and had three marriages. One of her husbands was a Scotsman, Lachen McGillivray. They had three offspring. The son, Alexander McGillivray, later became the leader of the Creeks (but that's a different story). Sehoy (II) had a relationship with a Tuckabatchee chief. They had a pretty daughter named Sehoy (III). All three Sehoys were of the Wind Clan, and important women to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Eventually there came to the Coosa & Tallapoosa, a wealthy Scottish trader, Charles Weatherford (he had one Native grandparent, Mary Half-Blood). He met Sehoy (III) and soon proposed marriage. He probably knew a marriage into the Wind Clan was good for acceptance andtrading privileges within the Creek Nation. Four children would eventually be born to Charles and Sehoy (III), the most famed of which was William (Red Eagle) Weatherford.

William's childhood was idealized. His love of mother and her culture was told in my column, The Rock Cairns. Eventually when war came between his people and the ever-advancing Americans, he chose his mother's side. The Creek Indian War really began at Fort Mims. I will continue Weatherford's journey from that event here.



The Creeks retreated to a place called the Holy Ground (Ikanatchaka). Prophets had said they would be safe there. But safety is aloof in times of war. Jackson's army came to the Holy Ground and the Creeks lost badly. William stayed the longest, and then strongly encouraged his horse toward a steep cliff under which the river ran. They leaped into the water. Today a long wooden walkway and end pavilion takes you to the very site. Please visit it some day.

Before and after Holy ground, other battles occurred. Their names should not be lost: Tallasseehatchee, Talladega, Hillabee, Auttossee, Emuckfau, Emitachopco and Calabee Creek. Obviously I cannot tell all the stories here. Suffice to say, some were won, but most were lost. The seasoned warriors knew it was time for a final stand. Facing overwhelming manpower and munitions, the skies were turning dark. I told the story of the final Battle of Horseshoe Bend (Cholocco Litebixee) in the July 2011 edition. Indeed, the event demands a book, to document a million tears for what our people lost, including 80% of our warriors. Imagine 800 hundred widows mourning for husbands, of children crying for their fathers.

After the epic battle, Jackson took his troops to the ruins of old Fort Toulouse. He built his new fort on the ruins of the old. He began to devise the penalties he would exact on a defeated people. A short while after the big battle, William Weatherford came to the camp, knowing Jackson wanted him the most (other chiefs had already surrendered. Red Eagle had shot a deer and brought it as a gift of fresh meat, being allowed entry as a "friendly savage." He found Jackson's tent and identified himself.

I shared his message in my column, The Rock Cairns, but will add a few additional words. He said, "Once I could have animated my warriors to battle, but I cannot animate the dead, my warriors can no longer hear my voice, for their bones lie at Talladaga, Emuckfau, Tallasseehatchee and Tohopeka."

Red Eagle was allowed to go home. He married and lived for a decade. He died

March 24, 1824, after a strenuous bear hunt, at the age of forty-four. Thankfully, he didn't live to see his people forced off their traditional lands to Indian Territory.

But then again, perhaps he sensed what was coming. After all, Andrew Jackson was known as the great American Indian hater… throughout his long career.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

Scott greets nation as Miss Muscogee 2011-2012

Leah Scott
Miss Muscogee Nation 2011-2012

OKMULGEE — Hensci Leah Scott ce hocefkv tos. The title of Miss Muscogee has always been an achievement few have been able to experience and I am humbled as well as honored to be our Nation's Goodwill Ambassador for 2011-2012.

Being named Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation gives me an opportunity to share our culture with tribes all over the country and be a motivator to our native people to continue to learn more about our traditions and language. The title of Miss Muscogee means that I have the opportunity to inspire and encourage young people to go out and achieve their educational goals. Being a role model to young Creeks is what I want to set out to do during my reign.

It has been said by Wilbur Gouge in his "Keepers of the Nation Speech" as a Muscogee Creek woman I should know who I am, know where I've been, and know where I'm going." As Miss Muscogee I feel I know all three. I'm thankful for the continuous love and support I receive from family and friends especially my mom. I'm also thankful for this wonderful Nation for selecting me to be a representative of our tribe.

I'm excited to go through my reign with honor and pride. I hope to inspire others and live up to the standards set for me. I would like to have my reign be a successful one. I look forward to an awesome year with the Jr. Miss Muscogee, Nancy Deere as we represent the Nation to the best of our abilities. I'm excited for the many opportunities that will be given throughout the year. Mvto!

Muscogee (Creek) Hymn Singing brings churches together

Media Release
Hvtce Cvpv Indian Baptist Church

DUSTIN — On Saturday, July 2, 2011 Hvtce Cvpv (River's edge) Indian Baptist Church, located in Dustin, Okla., hosted a Muscogee (Creek) Hymn Singing.

The event was organized by three long-time friends and fellow deacons; Steve Randall of Hickory Ground #2 Indian Baptist Church, Curtis Scott of Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church, and Charles West of Hvtce Cvpv Indian Baptist Church.

The traditional outside arbor of the church was the setting for the hymn singing and despite the hot summer weather, approximately 50 people from 19 Muscogee (Creek) churches were in attendance.

Hvtce Cvpv Church members provided a concession in the church's fellowship hall for people to escape from the heat, get a meal and a cold drink. The hymn singing was held from 5-10 p.m.

The familiar sound of four steady blows of the deacon's horn started the hymn singing. After a traditional prayer hymn and the opening prayer, a brief welcome and introduction was given by Charles West.

Next, Hvtce Cvpv member Dr. Hugh Foley, Associate Professor at Roger's State University, gave an interesting presentation on the history of many of the Muscogee (Creek) hymns sung in the traditional churches.

Foley has done extensive research on Muscogee (Creek) hymns and has been able to trace the structure of several hymns back to their origins in Scotland. The Scottish Missionary hymn structure, lining-out, was infused with the Black Gospel Music of adopted African slaves, and translated in the Muscogee (Creek) language to create the distinct sound that is still heard centuries later in the Muscogee (Creek) churches.

Foley ended his presentation with a hymn, 'Sweet By and By,' that he learned early in his work within the church.

Photo courtesy/*Monte Randall*
Pictured above are singers who attended the Hvtce Cvpv Indian Baptist Church Muscogee (Creek) Hymn Singing in July.

Curtis Scott followed with a few words of his own about the meaning of several of the hymns and gave an open invitation to the church groups, families, and individuals in attendance to come and share a hymn.

Several of the church groups sang the familiar hymns of their congregation. Hickory Ground #2 members sang '*Hocefcvt Vcacvt*' ('Precious Name.') Families stood together and sang their favorite hymns, while individuals gave testimonials about their personal feelings of specific hymns. The evening was filled with inspiration and the presence of God as everyone made a joyful noise.

Hvtce Cvpv pastor, Gene Harjo, sang some older hymns that only a few people still know. He talked about the importance of maintaining these hymns for the future generations to have and to use.

Rev. Jimsey Harjo of Rock Springs Church shared the meaning and translation to a few of his favorite hymns. Additionally, West emphasized the value of knowing the meaning of Muscogee (Creek) hymns in order to use the right hymn for the right purpose. He made the distinction of prayer hymns, hymns to bring the message, communion hymns and congregation hymns. The right hymn can uplift a person or an entire congregation.

Reminiscent of the times of the past, the outdoor hymn singing went on into the night. After everyone had their turn singing their favorite hymn, the program came to a close with a prayer. As is custom with the closing of a Muscogee (Creek) Church service, the people gathered in the fellowship hall for one final meal and to socialize before going home. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and the hymns.

Several people remarked on the useful information that was presented and many believed programs such as this are needed more often.

The members of Hvtce Cvpv, Hickory Ground #2, and Salt Creek Indian Baptist Churches worked hard to prepare the concession items and to arrange the church arbor seating for the guests in attendance.

Although the intent may have been to come together and hear some good singing, Randall agreed the information presented was very insightful. Randall would like to have more of these events and encourage younger people to attend. Together we all learn from one another and together we are able to keep the knowledge of our traditions and our hymns.

Local journalist recieves national recognition

Media Release
Angel Ellis

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla., — Local journalist, Angel Ellis won first place in a competition held by the Native American Journalists Association. Competitors from across the country submitted their best works in print, radio and television to the 2011 NAJA Media Awards held in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Ellis brought home Best News Story for a Bi/Monthly Publication for her article Chief vs. Communities, which was written during her time as a reporter for the Muscogee Nation News.

"First place was a pleasant surprise for me," said Ellis who had entered the competition last year without placing.

The article was a culmination of two years of research, months of court hearings and the following of investigations into tribal policy and gaming funds.

"The subject was such a sensitive one; it was a politically-charged issue that spanned the course of decades, so at times, it was a challenge to communicate the facts effectively," said Ellis. She explained, "The competition in NAJA is tough, but to win with that particular article was a relief."

Her first taste of journalism was as a writer for the Henryetta Free-lance. "I loved working in my home town," said Ellis. She was soon named editor and it was not long before her works caught the eye of another publication.

"It was a hard choice to make but I felt I could really use the exposure to the technology they used at the MNN, just looking at their publication, I knew that I had a lot learn," Ellis recalled.

After some recruiting efforts, she went to work for Muscogee Nation News. She spent the next three years developing her skills and training in various aspects of journalism. She even found herself branching into radio as a co-host of the department's weekly broadcast.

"Putting together news and delivering a live show at KOKL was a treat. It was like bungee jumping. On that first broadcast I just took a deep breath and big leap," she said.

Ellis resides in Henryetta with her husband Jared and their three children. She is currently a free-lance writer and is excited to find opportunities to put her skills to work in the community.

2011 MEDIA AWARDS
NAJA
DIVISION FOUR
1ST PLACE
Best News Story
Bi/Monthly
Angel Ellis
Chief Vs. Communities

Photo courtesy/*Angel Ellis*
Creek journalist Angel Ellis recieved fisrt place for Best News Story at the 2011 NAJA Conference in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in July.

Claims Filing Assistance

in the $760 million Keepseagle Indian Farmer/Rancher Settlement

DATE: August 16-18, 2011
TIME: Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Bacone College
Lucy Peters Hall
2299 Old Bacone Road
Muskogee, OK

DATE: August 16-18, 2011
TIME: Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Seneca-Cayuga
Tribe of Oklahoma
R2301 E Steve Owens Blvd.
Miami, OK

What is this About?

The class action settles claims that the USDA discriminated against Native American farmers and ranchers seeking farm loans or loan servicing.

Who is Included?

The Settlement includes:

- Native American farmers who:
    - Farmed or ranched (or attempted to) any time from 1981 to late 1999.
    - Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA.
    - Complained about discrimination to the USDA either directly or through a representative.
- Heirs of the above.

How Much Money Can I Get?

You may be eligible for a payment of up to $50,000 or more and full or partial loan forgiveness.

To receive a payment,
you must file a claim by December 27, 2011

To get help in filing a claim,
attend a meeting or call: 1-888-233-5506
or visit: www.IndianFarmClass.com

Emvponayv

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — WWW.whitehouse.gov/nativeamericans

This is the web site set up the by White House to serve as a contact point for Native Americans and our concerns. That is a positive move except for the fact that nothing much had changed at the website since it was put up a couple of months ago until fairly recently. There are speeches and a photo from President Obama's meeting with tribal leaders in 2009. More importantly, materials and topics at the end of June, started to reflect the latest issues. Rural America, Native youth, the Cobell Indian Trust settlement and a new Tribal Law and Order Act are the topics listed and discussed. I was beginning to wonder if the web page was going to be just 'window dressing' for the White House website or really going to show some actual content. By the way, if you visit the White House website, you'll probably find the Indian stuff under "Additional Issues." Not to be too critical, but the White House seems to favor photos with Native people wearing colorful traditional clothing. Something to keep in mind if you're going to the White House for a visit.

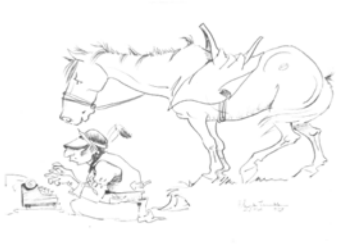
Speaking of the Cobell Indian Trust Settlement, Native America is still waiting to see some kind of payment for the mismanagement of Indian land and resources under the Bureau of Indian Affairs. A schedule of 'consultations' has been initiated around Native America. Oklahoma is scheduled to get one in October. Until then, I don't think any governmental type is going to say much about the settlement. I was interested in finding out how many Muscogee landowners were affected, but tribal and BIA officials weren't going to say anything.

I checked with an old friend back at the BIA in Disneyland-On-The-Potomac, and she wasn't saying much either. I'm not going to say who, but someone did use the phrase "gag order." Hmmm. That's like a shark smelling blood in the water to a reporter.

The list for the upcoming tribal election is pretty long with some significant changes. Another reporter and I conducted an informal "vox populi—voice of the people" poll at the tribal travel plaza to find out what Creeks thought about it. Although it was pretty hard to concentrate while smelling all those cheeseburgers and fries, we found out that most Creeks were paying some attention to the upcoming political free-for-all, and had some strong opinions about the new way of electing National Council representatives. That's a good sign of the people's interest in selecting the next leaders of this tribe.

Be sure to register and vote. Just look at the mess in Tahlequah, if you want to know why.

For those who do get elected to lead our people, here's a word to the wise stolen from Will Rogers (he's such a treasure of wisdom!): If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.



The California Muscogee (Creek) Association presents the August 6th, 2011 Gathering of California's Creek Indians

At the American Indian United Methodist Church Community Hall

800 South Lemon Street, Anaheim, Ca. 82805

From 11am until 4pm

Please join us for a great celebration of ALL THINGS MVSKOKE!

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief AD Ellis is our special guest and he brings with him Community Service, Burial Services, Realty, Citizenship Office (under new management), Communications, Mvskoke Language Department, Cultural Preservations, the College of the Muscogee Nation and many more departments within the MCN.

This is also an election year for the MCN, and we are pleased to announce that a number of candidates running for the offices of Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council Seats will be attending this event. Please come out to meet them and ask questions that you have concerning your family and rights within the Creek Nation. The candidates will be given time to speak and take your questions.

Also attending is the Mvskoke Language Department with new tools for teaching the Mvskoke language and a great desire for outreach to as many Creeks as possible.

The Citizenship Office is under new management and ask that if you have children who are not yet enrolled or you have had problems enrolling under the old management, please make an effort to attend this event. They come before you to make changes, positive changes for Mvskoke people.

We also need as many volunteers as possible. Please stay and help clean!

This is a Pot Luck Event, please bring food and drinks to share and prepare for a large crowd.

Any questions please contact Eli Grayson

eligrayson@hotmail.com

760-534-1632

DOUBLE DIAMOND CLUB SATURDAY

Saturdays in August

NOON - 5:00 PM

$10 Match Play for Diamond Club members.

$50 Hot Seat Drawings every half hour beginning at 1:30 PM and ending at 4:00 PM.

3420 W. PEAK BLVD. MUSKOGEE OK 74401
918.683.1825 creeknationcasino.net
Look for us on facebook and twitter under 'LUCK STRIKES HERE'

CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE

2011 CANDIDATES

Sam Alexander

Principal Chief

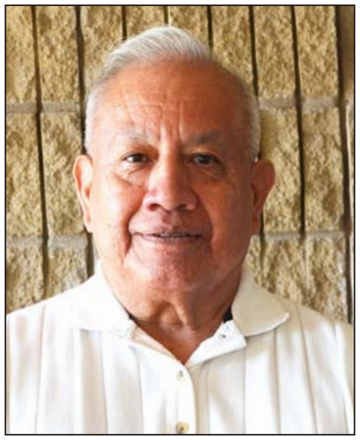
Clan: Eco (Deer)
Tribal Town: Thlopthlopcco
Church: Montesoma Indian Baptist Church
Family: son of the late Louis M. and Myra B. Alexander; wife, Sharon; daughters, Samantha, Meagan; daughter, Christy from first marriage; two granddaughters, Cambria and Jordan
Education: Wagner High School; Northeastern State University; post-graduate studies in business and finance; passed Uniform Certified Public Accountant Exam in 1979
Experience: 38 year career in public accounting. Own and manage CPA firm in Wagner, Okla., for the past 20 years. Licensed to practice public accounting by Oklahoma Accountancy Board since 1973. Muscogee Nation Tax Commissioner 1993-1996; Gaming Operations Authority Board member from 1998 to 2002; chair for three years plus. Elected to National Council in 2005, representative of Tulsa District since 2006

Platform: The intent of this campaign is to offer experienced executive leadership at the highest level of tribal government. As a licensed certified public accountant, my experience includes owning an accounting firm for the past 20 years. This environment provided exposure to all phases of commercial business and taxation, and has served me well in tribal responsibilities.

While differences exist between governmental and business operations, stewardship and asset protection are key management components. Substantial commercial success results from a commitment to ethical behavior. This approach must be adopted throughout our government as services are delivered and citizens served. Tribal managers and executives must understand and be able to walk a mile in the shoes of citizens seeking vital help from their Indian tribe. An ongoing quest for efficiencies and improvements must become second nature. If voters are serious, my qualifications and experience in tribal and business leadership are second to none.

Wilson Bear

Principal Chief



Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Eufaulagee-Canadian
Ceremonial Ground: Eufaulagee
Education: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology-Sociology, Northeastern State University
Experience: 16 years
Platform: I'm not running for political aspirations or monetary value. I'm running from my heart to help the Creek citizens and the Creek Nation to move forward. I'm forgiving the past and to look to the future.

Alfred Berryhill

Principal Chief

Clan: Alligator
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Church: Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church
Education: Sequoyah High School, Haskell, Oklahoma State University

Platform: My passion for the Muscogee (Creek) people, our history and culture are very important to me. My mission as chief is to promote the culture in all facets of the nation. I read, speak and write the Muscogee language fluently. I am also skilled in singing Creek hymns.

My experience while working within the tribe has enabled me to determine the areas that I would want to concentrate on as chief. My role will be to serve the public interest beyond serving myself; respect and support our Constitution and laws; demonstrate personal integrity; adhere to the highest standards to inspire public confidence; serve tribal members by being ethical, efficient and effective; and strive for professional excellence. alfredberryhill4chief.com

Mike Flud

Principal Chief

Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Tuskegee
Education: Two master degrees in education

Platform: I realize that it will take cooperation between all three branches of government, but especially the legislative and executive branches to move the nation forward. Listed below are some of the priorities that I feel are important for the next chief to consider:

1. Make a considered effort to create jobs outside of our casino industry.
2. Keep our cultural and traditional preservation strong. We need to implement our language revitalization program in many more schools as quickly as possible.
3. Education is and should always be important to our nation. As a retired educator and present Board of Regents for our College of the Muscogee Nation, I know the value of a good education. I am looking forward to the expansion of our college and hope that someday every Muscogee citizen that wants a quality education can attend our college completely expense-free.

2011 CANDIDATES

Shirlene Ade

National Council - Tukvpvtce District

Clan: Tiger
Tribal Town: Cheyaha
Church: Many Springs Baptist Church
Family: father, Frank Lewis; mother, Elizabeth Narcomey
Experience: Served on the National Council since 2004. Worked for Tinker Air Force Base and McAlester Ammunitions Base. Retired in 2005 and received the highest honor, the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service.

Platform: We have a challenge to face our future by addressing the needs of our people in a modern setting through innovative and technological means, but it must remain essentially Mvskoke Etvlwv. To accomplish this our government must remain in and of our culture and in and of our people. We cannot continue to take funds from the community towards a centralized government. We must return funding, power and control to our respective communities. A government by and for the people is a government that is close to the people that knows, appreciates and is responsive to their needs. I believe Mvskoke Etvlwv resides in the hearts of our people, not capitol buildings. Government should be close to and respond to the hearts of our Creek people. Government is not above the law and it must serve the people, the Mvskoke Etvlvwv.

Sylvanna Caldwell

National Council - Tukvpvtce District

Clan: Wotko (Raccoon)
Tribal Town: Kialegee
Church: Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church
Family: husband, Lynn Caldwell; sons, Joey, Adam and Jim Caldwell; eight grandchildren; one great-grandson
Education: Chilocco Indian Boarding School; Wetumka High School; B.S. in Education, East Central University; Information management diploma, Wright Business School; grant writing certification, West Watkins Technology Center
Experience: Previous employment includes Director of Education, Director of Transporation, Summer Youth Counselor, Director and Fiscal Officer for tribal enterprise, and Human Resources in Gaming. Former representative on the National Council, shift supervisor, Assistant HR, HR Director and Sergeant in Security for MCN Gaming.

Platform: There are a lot of concerns from citizens regarding various issues regarding health, housing, communities, special appropriations and gaming. Although I have been in the workforce, I have kept up wit the activities as to the current status of the tribe. As a former National Council representative, I have acquired more knowledge as how to get the job done for our tribe and citizens. I will focus not only on the above-mentioned issues, but other issues that come along. I prayerfully and humbly ask for your support and vote for my candidacy for National Council representative for the Tukvpvtce District. MVTO

Esther June Fixico

National Council - Tukvpvtce District

Clan: Wotko (Raccoon)
Tribal Town: Kialegee
Church: Grace (Herkv) Baptist Church
Family: parents, Louis and Agnes Wesley Hobia; four children; 14 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren
Education: LPN
Experience: Worked with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems for 20 years and in tribal town government for four years.

Platform: In order to fulfill her duties as a representative of the people, she will (1) abide by the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, (2) establish a working relationship with other representatives on behalf of the tribal citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, (3) keep her local community informed of tribal issues and (4) disseminate information of services tribal citizens are eligible for and if necessary, advocate for their needs.

James R. McGirt

National Council - Tukvpvtce District

Clan: Nokose (Bear)
Tribal Town: New Tulsa
Family: parents, Moses McGirt and Emily Cornell; paternal grandparents, Jim McGirt and Annie Larney; maternal grandparents, Willie Cornell and Manie Lovett
Education: Chilocco Indian School, attended the University of Oklahoma
Experience: United States Marine Corps as a recruit and served with the 1st Radio Company; contracts manager for McDonnel-Douglas Aircraft company; Chairman of the Native American Scholarship Fund; Founding members of the Urban Indian Development Association; former President and CEO of American Indian Enterprises

Platform: I have demonstrated my knowledge in organizational planning, contracting, financial planning and management. I have served a number of terms as Chairman of the Holdenville Creek Indian Community.

2011 CANDIDATES

Alvin Lee Bucktrot

National Council - Tulsa District

Clan: Wind

Tribal Town: Hickory Ground

Ceremonial Ground: Hickory Ground & Sand Creek (Iron Post)

Family: wife, Patsy Bucktrot; sons, Kevin Lee, Keith Allen, Lee Allen; five grandchildren; son of Liza Harjo and the late Alvin Lee Bucktrot, Sr.

Education: Graham High School; A.S. in Plumbing from OSU Okmulgee Tech (now OSU-IT)

Experience: Eight years in the National Guard; Union steward for 24 years. Journeyman plumber for 33 years; Instructor in training classes for the National Guard.

Platform: The issues I want to address are no different than any other candidate: health care, education, social services and the wasteful spending of tribal funds. The people we should be thinking about are the Creek citizens. The Creek people are being forgotten. The people wait too long in hospitals and clinics. We need more doctors and nurses. We have high school graduates who cannot get enough funding to seek a higher education. Elderly and less fortunate people wait long periods to have repairs done to homes. Money! Money, unfortunately, is what makes things go in government. If we as a nation cannot control spending, all the services I have mentioned are going to continue to suffer. It doesn't matter if you're a Christian, traditionalist, or you just a free bird. WE are all Creeks and the people come first. I want to be the voice of the people.

Robert Hufft

National Council - Tulsa District

Clan: Deer

Church: Grew up in Pickett Chapel Indian Methodist Church. Now attend Asbury United Methodist Church

Family: children, Lauren, Alex and Avery Hufft; mother, Betty J. Jones (Grayson)

Education: B.S. in Accounting from Oklahoma State University

Experience: Controller and Credit manager; National Council Representative from 1997-2005 and 2008-2011

Platform: I support economic development for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation beyond gaming so that the nation may continue to grow and prosper. I believe in strong traditional values and the unique tribal culture of the nation while still supporting mainstreaming into a powerful nation capable of supporting its citizens. I support better healthcare and the continuous need to advocate for contract health funds. I also believe in education and will continue to support educational funding while advocating for more educational benefits. I believe in our people and our great nation and believe that we can truly unite together to move forward from the past trials that we have experienced over the past few years to make it a better nation for all our citizens. MVTO.

Lucian Allen Tiger, III

National Council - Tulsa District

Family: parent, Lucian (Sonny) Tiger II

Education: Kellyville High School; attended Connors State College and Oklahoma State University

Experience: Owner and operator of two successful businesses in the Creek community.

Platform: The positive and aggressive approach that I use with my businesses is the same attitude that I would bring to the National Council. As a Creek citizen, there are many issues that concern me (senior programs, higher education for Creek citizens, health care, housing for low income families). However, I am not seeking this position to benefit myself, but to represent these issues and the questions and concerns of the Creek citizens. Through my time and dedication I feel that I can help resolve these issues and get answers for our community. These are just a few of the many reasons I would appreciate your vote in the upcoming election. MVTO

Eleanor Irene VanBuskirk

National Council - Tulsa District

Clan: Wind

Tribal Town: Knncvte

Church: 'Non-Denomination'-Family Prayer Center

Family: ancestral lineage includes Opothle Yahola; grandmother, Sarah Simmers; mother, Esther (Simmers) Van Woudenberg; daughter, Chasilee; two sons, Josiah Yona and Elijah; six grandchildren

Education: Central High School; Bachelor of Business Administration, Langston University/UCT

Experience: Small business development specialist/ financial analysts; secured funding for the start-up and the expansion of small businesses; consultant; Member of the economic development for the Tulsa Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce/Multicultural committee; public speaker; certified trainer; technical writer; grant writer

Platform: As a council member, I will command leadership that encompasses integrity and embraces accountability that will reaffirm/ renew the confidence of our people back to our tribe. I can dedicate my service to a higher standard of serving our people through reevaluating policy, to reflect a government that serves its tribal members. I am able and I will provide representation that is proactive and resourceful in exploring through research, viable economic development ventures which have been proven to be sound and feasible and which will increase revenue to our tribe, ultimately to our tribal members.

I intend to utilize my skills, experience and education in a position that will serve my people, our tribe. I consider the position as a representative to serve our people a privilege and honor and I am able and I am willing to commit diligence in accomplishing the excellence, our tribal members, our tribe deserves.

2011 CANDIDATES

Carol McHenry-Williams

National Council - Tulsa District

Clan: Beaver (Echaswv)
Tribal Town: Locvpoka
Church: Lexington Road Family Worship Center
Family: spouse, Ron Williams; three daughters, Rhanna Simmons, Karrie Phillips, Candy Lillig; son, Michael Shawn Williams; 10 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; parents, the late Lewis (Corky) McHenry and Gladys Bland McHenry
Education: Associate Degree in Computer Science, Tulsa Community College
Experience: Currently serving as Muscogee (Creek) National Council Tulsa District Seat A. Member of the Human Development Committee. Previously served as Tulsa Creek Indian Community representative on Greater Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission and on Constitution Committee.
Platform: It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as Muscogee (Creek) National Council Tulsa District Seat A. I have learned a lot in the past two years and am looking forward to serving for the next term of office. I have worked hard and acquired my Associate Degree while working full-time and being the mother of four children. I have good work ethics, analytical skills and excellent research skills with a strong math background. I will work hard to promote all citizens' concerns with an emphasis on health issues, higher education, senior services and would like to see a greater synergy of resources. MVTO and may God bless each and every one of you.

Paula Willits

National Council - Tulsa District

Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: New Tulsa
Family: married; one son
Education: Bachelor of Business Administration, Langston University at University Center at Tulsa
Experience: Served in the U.S. Naval Reserve; retired after 30 years of government service.
Platform:I have served on the National Council for six years and worked on three of the committees: tribal affairs, business and governmental and community development and cultural services. That experience has helped me learn about the people, problems and opportunities that the nation deals with. I have lived in Tulsa since 1977 after returning to Okla., from Los Angeles, Calif., where my family was relocated in the 1950s.
Prior to being elected to the National Council, I served in the Tulsa Creek Indian Community as Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. As a National Council representative, I consider what's good for the Nation, not just for the Tulsa District. A funeral home, bank, cemetery, better funding for education and better services are a few things that need to be addressed. I will use my education and experience to help move our nation forward to better serve our citizens.

Barbara Gillespie

National Council - Wagoner District

Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: Locvpokv
Church: Davis Chapel
Family: parents, the late Mose Childers and Violet (Williams) Childers, Freeman; one son, Larry Gillespie; granddaughter, Tiffany (Gillespie) Morris
Experience: Served 12 years on the National Council; Business owner and operator for 13 years; Real estate for 35 yeras; Wagoner County Economic Advisory Board, three years; Coweta Public Schools Indian Education Coordinator, six years; Chairperson of the Tribal Affairs, Human Development, Community Services Committee and Vice-chairperson of the Fact Finding Committee.
Platform: I bring to the National Council, EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION.
Our people's needs are becoming greater as our citizenship rolls continue to increase. My priorities will be to address medical care, elder care, education, job training, language, traditional/cultural preservation and economic development.
I ask for your vote and support to elect me to serve as your National Council representative from the Wagoner, Rogers and Mayes District. MVTO.

Johnnie Greene

National Council - Wagoner District

Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Kialegee
Church: Springtown United Methodist
Family: parents, the late Rev. John and Fannie (Berryhill) Chalakee; husband, Johnnie; two daughters, Terri and Sherri; four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren
Education: Coweta High School; studied business at Haskell Institute; received a certificate in business from Tulsa Business School.
Experience: Employed with St. John Medical Center in the Accounting Department, Computer Operations at C.E. Crest Engineering, Executive Secretary for Second Chief A.D. Ellis and Executive Director. Served on the National Council for the past six years on Community Services and Cultural Committee and Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Human Development committe.
Platform: As the sale of tobacco products is a very huge issue within our nation, I feel our communities are going to have to venture out to other economic development. We have citizens in many of our communities as well as employees of our nation who have business and operations experience. I feel we need to utilize our Muscogee citizens in all phases and operations of our great nation whether it be doctors, lawyers, educators, etc. Helping the elders with their housing and health issues and encouraging the children and youth to obtain their education is of the upmost importance to me.

2011 CANDIDATES

Mark J. Randolph

National Council - Wagoner District

Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Nuyakv
Church: New Joy-former member of Bemo Church
Family: mother, Brenda (Noble) Walker; father, Thomas Ray Randolph; maternal grandmother, Gertie (Tiger) Noble; Paternal grandmother, Patsy (Gray) Randolph
Education: Broken Arrow High School; A.A. in Liberal Arts, Haskell Indian Junior College; Bachelors Degree in Social Work, University of Kansas; Masters of Social Work, University of Kansas
Experiene: I have worked for the Yavapai Nation as a case manager, crisis interventionist and mentor. At Haskell Indian Nations University, I was a supervisory guidance counselor, counselor, equal employment opportunity counselor, grant writer, club sponsor, vision quest instructor, academic advisor, motivational speaker, workshop traning coordinator, workshop presenter, and mentor.

Platform: Hensci Komakvte, hope these words find all of you happy, healthy and surrounded by the greatest of spirits. I wish you the luck of the Redbird. I believe prayer is our greatest strength and the Mvskoke people are our number one resource.

I believe in servant leadership; devoting my life in services to others. I was raised to embrace the precious gift of life. I thank God, our creator, everyday for breath and a new day. I believe our people to be extremely spiritual with powerful minds. I was raised in the church and have great respect for our ceremonial grounds.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Election Board
918-756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979
Extensions 7685, 7684, 7683 and 7631

2011 MCN voter precinct information

Creek District
- Bristow Indian Community Center
  710 S. Main St.
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center
  1020 N. Brown St.

Mcintosh District
- Eufaula Indian Community Center
  800 Forest Ave.
- Checotah Indian Community Center
  500 Owens Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center
  Last road through Hanna, turn east and go four miles
- Yardeka Indian Community Center
  Eight miles SE of Henryetta (one mile south of Salem Baptist) S. 250 Rd.

Muskogee District
- Muscogee Indian Community Center
  111 South Virginia

Okfuskee
- Okemah Indian Community Center
  1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community
  602 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District
- Dewar Indian Community Center
  212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center
  2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center
  8110 Highway 52

Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District
- Dustin Indian Community Center
  Main Street
- Holdenville Indian Community Center
  224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community Center
  608 N. Creek St.

Tulsa District
- Glenpool Indian Community Center
  13839 S. Casper
- Tulsa Indian Community Center
  8611 South Union

Wagoner District
- Koweta Indian Community
  30925 E. 141st St. S

Vote

Continued from A1

According to the Muscogee (Creek) Election Board, the deadline to request an absentee ballot is Aug. 25, 2011 at 5 p.m. The Election Board notes that absentee ballot requests will not re-open for the general election.

The primary election is set for Sept. 17 with the general election Nov. 5. Absentee ballots will be mailed out to absentee voters on Aug. 29 for the primary and again on Oct. 17 for the general election.

The Election Board encourages the elderly, citizens who work weekends and those who attend weekend activities to become an absentee voter.

"We do encourage a lot of people to go absentee because emergencies may be happening or you happen to have something else to do on that day," Harjo said.

The Election Board also encourages younger citizens, age 18-30, to get registered and vote.

Only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the Election Board will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections.

For more information on registering to vote, contact the Election Board office at (918) 732- 7684 or (918) 732-7685.

2011 CANDIDATES

Local Creeks intend to vote

• Poll indicates Muscogee citizens are following election activities

Gary Fife and Lee Longhorn
Muscogee Nation News

OKMULGEE — An informal, non-scientific survey of Muscogee citizens patronizing the tribal Travel Plaza in Okmulgee finds that the majority are registered voters do intend to vote, and are split in their awareness of changes in the upcoming election.

The noon-time survey of citizens picked at random found 10 who were voters, one who was not, seven who will vote, and one who will not. They were asked two questions: 1. What do you think about the election in general?; and, 2. What do you think about the new at-large council seat election amendment?

Here's what the Creek citizens said:

Cilla Litsey (Dewar) — 1. "I just think that the younger generation could get a little more help. Sometimes, if they could just get a start, they can make it."

2. (no response)

Nelson Harjo, Jr. (Wilson)—1. "I've voted since I was 18. I try to vote for who I think's best. That's what anybody does."

2. "Just in my mind, what's the point of having a representative that everybody can vote for. We're modeled somewhat after the way the United States government works. They have representatives from different parts of the country and are split up into precincts. Each person from that precinct votes for their representatives. So, with opening it up to everybody, the general population can vote for anybody now; I think that defeats the purpose of having a representative."

"I don't feel very positive about that amendment, due to the fact that there are districts and I just feel like you shouldn't vote for somebody else in Tulsa district if you don't know what they need in Tulsa, if you don't live in Tulsa."

-Whitney Mayhew, Okmulgee

Linda Chisholm (Okmulgee)—1. "I haven't thought about it much, not right now, anyway."

2. "I think it's good, no particular reason."

George Dunn (Okmulgee) — 1. "I haven't seen much so far."

2. "I understand their thinking behind it, but I don't know if its going to work out that way."

Mekko Tyner (Okmulgee)—1. "It's going to be a pretty good one, with the Chief going. Some of the candidates I haven't heard of. I want to see who they are, and what they plan to do to help our nation."

2. "Like I said, there's a lot of candidates and a lot of people that I'm not aware of, and what they're capabilities are, so there's more pressure on the voters out there to be more informed about who they're going to vote for. It'll probably be interesting to see what's going to take place. I'm just ready to hurry up and get the process over with, to see who's going to be our next leader. Hopefully, there won't be any episode like the Cherokees or anything like that."

Katherine Tecumseh (Okmulgee) — 1. "I'm not sure I know who's filing yet."

2. "I think that's a good idea. Because some people will get in there, and get comfortable too long."

Meske Wind (Beggs)—1. "I'm excited. I'm just ready to see what's going to happen. Ready for change, because I think it's a good thing. I'm excited pretty much, that sums it up."

2. "I like that. I like being able to vote because I think a good candidate can come out of a district that you're not in, and you want to support them, whether they're in your district or not. I think its a good idea to be able to vote for all of them."

William Hale (Hectorville) — 1. "I think the election will probably be a pretty good election this time around. It seems like you always have a good election. You always have good people running, good thoughts, good output from all the candidates and everything."

2. "The only thing I would question would probably be the representatives. You know, they've cut them down. You had 24 to begin with. Now, we're down to 12. *(Editor's note: The number of National Council Representatives will be 16 after the 2013 election.)*

"You don't have that where a certain person just answers to a certain district. Now, everybody can say, 'Hey, you're part of this deal, too, you know.' It seems like before, a lot of people would hide behind that. I think we'll see who are the good candidates the people are going to pick and see what they'll be like when there's only 12 of them."

Whitney Mayhew (Okmulgee)—1. "I hope that everything turns out great and not like the Cherokee Nation election. That's all I think about it. "

2. "I don't feel very positive about that amendment, due to the fact that there are districts and I just feel like you shouldn't vote for somebody else in Tulsa district if you don't know what they need in Tulsa, if you don't live in Tulsa. I really don't care for that kind of amendment. I feel like you should just vote for your district."

Samuel Roberts (Okmulgee) --1. "I really haven't read anything about it, who's running yet."

2. " I don't really keep track of it. We really don't know what all is going on there. I'd like to see them updated, the council meetings, anyway."

For more information on the elction, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Election Board at (918) 756-7685.

"I've voted since I was 18. I try to vote for who I think's best. That's what anybody does."

-Nelson Harjo, Jr., Wilson

2011 CANDIDATES

August 2011

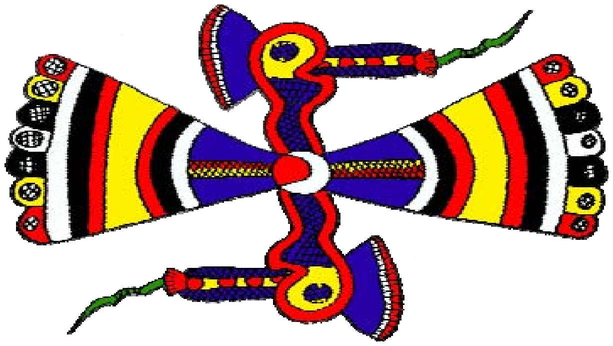
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Candidate Forum Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 California Muscogee (Creek) Gathering at American Indian UMC in Anaheim, California 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. **All Candidates**
7	8 Checotah Indian Community 6-8 p.m. **All Candidates**	9	10 Tulsa Indian Community Meet and Greet 7-10 p.m. **All Candidates**	11 College of the Muscogee Nation 6-8 p.m. **Principal Chief Only**	12 Sapulpa Indian Community **Principal Chief, Okmulgee, Okfuskee, McIntosh, Tukvpvtce Candidates Only**	13 Oklahoma City California Creek Association 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **All Candidates**
14	15 Sapulpa Indian Community 6-9 p.m. **All Candidates**	16	17	18	19 Dewar Indian Community 6-?? **Principal Chief Only** Muskogee Indian Community 6-9 p.m. **Second Chief Only**	20 Koweta Indian Community 1p.m.-?? **Principal and Second Chief Only**
21	22 Koweta Indian Community 6-9 p.m. **National Council Candidates Only**	23	24	25 Eufaula Indian Community 6-9 p.m. **All Candidates**	26 Dewar Indian Community 6-9 p.m. **Second Chief Only** Muskogee Indian Community 6-9 p.m. **Principal Chief Only**	27 Twin Hills Indian Community – Session 1: 2-4 p.m. **Principal Chief, Okmulgee, McIntosh** Session 2: 6-8 p.m. **Second Chief, Tulsa, Tukvpvtce, Wagoner**
28	29 Muskogee Indian Community 6-9 p.m. **National Council Candidates Only**	30				

For more information on the individual candidate forums, please contact the corresponding community. This information may be obtained through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research and Development Department by calling (918) 732-7963.

Muscogee Creek Nation
9th Annual
"Doing Business in Indian Country"



Continuing Legal Education Seminar
River Spirit Events Center, Tulsa, OK

Thursday and Friday – August 18th and 19th

Nationally recognized speakers with topics including:
Internet Gaming, Tribal Sovereignty, Water and Land Use Rights for Business Enterprises, Updates on the National Indian Gaming Commission and Oklahoma Tribal Compacts, Tribal Court Practice, Federal and State Indian Law Case updates, Small Claims and Judgment Practice in Tribal Courts, Ethic's training, and much much more!

13 hours of CLE (1 hour of ethics)
Come join us for complimentary hot breakfasts and lunch buffets

Name: ______________________________ **OBA Number:**________

Firm Name: ______________________

Address:____

Phone: ______________________________

Email: ______________________________

Mail Completed Form and $225.00 per registrant to:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court
CLE Registration
PO Box 652
Okmulgee, OK 74447

***Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bar Association Meeting – Thursday Evening during Visions Buffet Dinner**

2011 CANDIDATES

Jason Nichols

Principal Chief

Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Church: St. James Presbyterian Church
Family: wife, Alison; daughter, Cassidy; son, Carson; parents, David and Ginger Nichols; paternal grandparents, the late Joan Nichols (Fixico) and Bobby Hajo; maternal grandparents, Phyllis MeGown and the late Bill Walls
Education: Bachelor of Business Administration,
Northeastern State University
Experience: Gaming Operations Authority Board, 2002 to 2005; Deputy Gaming Commissioner, 2005; Acting Gaming Commissioner, 2006; Oklahoma Tribal Gaming Regulators Association Board, Sergeant-at-Arms; Johnson O'Malley Program for Jenks Public Schools, Vice-Chairman

Platform: I have identified four areas that need to be focused on immediately to accomplish our goals as a nation. The four areas are: unity, accountability, protecting our sovereignty and maximizing the federal dollars we receive as a nation. These four areas will allow me to focus on job creation, education, human development, cultural preservation, language preservation, health care and housing. In order for our nation to move forward, we must work together as a government to pass legislation that stimulates job creation and enhances services for our people. We must ensure we are investing for long-term stability. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has 71,424 [at time of submission] tribal citizens and if elected as your Principal Chief, I will do what is right for the entire Creek population.
I invite you to visit my web site at www.nichols4chief.com for more information on my vision. The decisions we make today will affect generations for years to come. I respectfully ask for your vote and support.

George Tiger

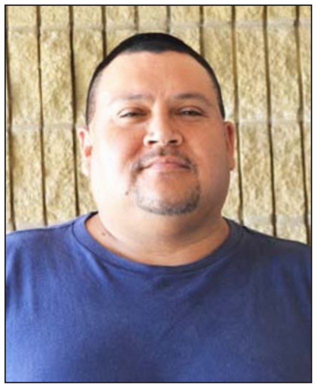
Principal Chief

Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Hickory Ground
Church: Yardeka Indian Baptist Church
Education: Morris High School; attended Northeastern A&M Jr. College; Haskell Indain Jr. College and Noreastern State University
Experience: A strong leadership experience on a national, state, and tribal level. My experience as evaluator of proposals for federal funding and having served as an advocate for federal funds is an asset.

Platform: I strongly commit to working with the National Council and other sources in a unified effort for an improved overall health system, jobs and economic development, tribal sovereignty, housing, expansion of elder and youth programs, Creek community development, employee rights reform, strengthen cultural and language preservation, Creek preference on job opportunities and evaluation of tribal funded program policies and guidelines.

Bert Robison

Principal Chief



Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Tuckabatchee
Church: Cedar Creek Baptist Church
Education: Master's Degree in Management, Southern Nazarene University
Experience: Tribal employee for 19 years worked in Housing, Tribal Administration and Health; Pastor of Cedar Creek Baptist Church in Coweta

Platform: I am seeking the Office of Principal Chief because we can no longer afford to continue simply with business as usual. Our citizens and our tribe are losing ground and falling behind other tribes and the rest of society around us. I plan to bring a fresh approach and to make a difference for the citizens and the employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I want to bring the three R's to the Office of Principal Chief-Reform, Renewal and Reconciliation.
Reform- Streamline and modernize the processes and the infrastructure of every aspect of the tribe.
Renewal- Place a renewed focus on developing and expanding programs to help citizens make a better future for themselves.
Reconciliation- Restoration of a functional government that works in the best interests of the Nation. Work to establish a constructive environment where each branch of government works to fulfill its responsibilities with a sense of purpose and teamwork.

Judy Aaron

Second Chief

Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Green Leaf/Cussetah
Church: Home church of Big Cussetah United Methodist Church, currently pastor of Tulsa Indian United Methodist Church
Family: daughter of Eugene John and Caryolyn (Willie) John; grandparents, George Tooske Willie, Maryland (Harjo) Willie, Cornelius John, Betsy (Mitchell) John
Education: Master's of Divinity, Phillips Theological Seminar; Master's of Public Health, University of Oklahoma; Bachelor of Science, Southeastern State University; certified grant writer
Experience: 18 years of health care management wtih Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System, Indian Health Service and non-profit health systems in Tulsa. Seven years of service as a minister in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of the United Methodist Church

Platform: Our tribal government has an exciting opportunity to grow our infrastructure in new directions creating opportunities for citizens to participate in life. Our government has suffered from a disconnect with all citizens served, and as Second Chief I would like to promote the inclusion and political participation of all Creek citizens at the individual and community level. Our programs should be designed to address areas of life, which must be healthy for us to realize our fullness: our physical well-being (health), household (shelter, food, clothing), spiritual and community relationships. I would like to support the administration of the Principal Chief and be responsive to the Creek citizens by taking concrete, real steps to improve our programs in services to children, working families, those who are disabled or disorderly. For more information visit my blog www.judyaaronfor2chief.blogspot.com, my page on facebook, Judy Aaron for Second Chief, or email at judyaaronfor2chief@gmail.com.

2011 CANDIDATES

Terri Anderson

Second Chief

Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Cussetah
Family: mother, Barbara Lane; grandmother, Dorothy (Daniels) Pinezaddleby
Education: Bachelor Degree in Social Work and Master's Degree in Public Health Administration and Policy, from the University of Oklahoma
Experience: Worked for various Muscogee (Creek) Departments such as Social Services, WIC, Health System Statistician-Epidemiologist, College of the Muscogee Nation and as Okmulgee District National Council Representative

Platform: Hensci! My name is Terrie Anderson. I'm running for Second Chief and I'm asking for your vote! I feel that I am a strong candidate for the Second Chief position. More than my education and experience what I truly have to offer Creek Nation is my heart. There is not other entity in this world that I feel so passionatly about. As Second Chief, I will strive to look for opportunities to make this nation better and to make this nation work for you, the citizens.

Roger Barnett

Second Chief

Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Concharty
Church: Concharty
Family: children; Chenoa Brooke Barnett, April Oskee Barnett and Eco Tasahce Barnett. Parents are Eleanor Rachel (Wilson) Barnett of Bristow and the late Joseph (Joe) Barnett of Bristow.
Education: OSU-Associates Degree, studied at NSU in Industrial Operations Management and Environmental Studies & Safety
Experience: Served in the 10th Mountain Division, stationed in Ft. Benning, Ga., received an honorable discharge along with other certificates, medals, military schools and commendations. Worked with the Higher Education Department for two years, Judicial Branch for ten months and National Council Representative for 12 years. Chairman of the Business and Governmental committee for three terms, Vice-Chairman of the Community Services and Cultural Committee for one term and served as Second Speaker for one term. Currently, the Speaker of the National Council

Platform: My goals are to continue working toward the betterment of our tribal programs and services as well as improving our economic development opportunities so that our citizens may receive the best services. I believe that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has to move forward from the adversity that has surrounded the Nation the last few years and believe I can help promote that change in a positive way. I believe my experience has provided me with the abilities to work as a liaison between the Executive and Legislative branches, as well as the state and federal government. I will use my experience to provide assistance to the Principal Chief with the various issues that involve the nation. I am dedicated to serving you. I ask for your consideration and support for the Office of the Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Mvto.

Nathan Buck

Second Chief

Clan: Bird
Church: Many Springs Baptist Church
Education: Haskell Institute, certificate in Drafting
Experience: Manager of MCN Food Distribution Program; Two terms on National Council; Employee of Hudson-Phillips Funeral home for over 30 years

Platform: I propose to award contracts to provide services in the areas of health care, transportation, child care and elder care, thereby putting people to work rather than making them dependent. In health care, reward individuals who make efforts to improve their own health or assist others to make the efforts. Health improvements can be for weight loss, improved diabetic conditions, helping care for the disabled, providing transportation to families, etc. In business, award grants to individuals to start their own business and start junior achievement programs to teach business knowledge and practices to youth. Form credit unions or partnership with banks easing fees and required deposits to promote greater financial freedom for our citizens. In government, encourage our citizens to know how government works, thereby promoting tribal pride. In education, increase the amount of scholarships for education and offer jobs upon completion of education to encourage careers within our community.

David Dunson

Second Chief

Clan: Wotko (Raccoon)
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Church: Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church
Family: the late Eugene Dunson and Juanita Dunson, parents; the late Thomas and Susie Dunson and Punskee and Louisa Field, grandparents
Education: Bachelor Degree in Organization Leadership, Southern Nazarene University; Master's Degree in Ministry and Culture, Phillips Theological Seminary
Experience: Assistant to the Second Chief

Platform: I am a full-blood Creek citizen and for almost six years, I have served as the assistant to Second Chief Alfred Berryhill. I have addressed the concerns of our Creek citizens with intelligent and intentional decision making. I have envisioned business and legal frameworks to develop and sustain programs, which would support our families and communities in times of economic and ecological uncertainty. I hope to continue with implementing planned projects and increase business structures, which would benefit our nation and citizens without prejudice. I bring the experience, education and knowledge to present diplomatically at any organizational level. I understand the responsibilities and demands of the Office of the Second Chief. I understand the continual accountability required when faced with all types of circumstances. My personal agenda is to try my best to assist our great Muscogee (Creek) Nation through periods of struggle, concerns and barriers. The joy comes when we celebrate success together. I ask for your support.

2011 CANDIDATES

Louis Hicks

Second Chief

Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Church: Silver Spring Indian Baptist
Family: wife, Gloria Hicks; seven children
Education: B.S in Education and M.S. in School Administration from Northeastern State University

Platform: First of all as Second Chief, I would be available to the Chief to serve in any capacity that would be beneficial to the tribe and its citizens. Education is one of my primary concerns, whether it's early childcare or post-graduate work. I would like to see that all citizens have that opportunity to take their education to their limits. Finding new ways to expedite funding is a concern, even if it takes hiring more employees in these departments.

I would also advocate for more employment opportunities for our citizens. I feel that we have a lot of productive citizens that have a lot to offer the tribe if the opportunity is there. Economic development would be a priority.

Anna Marshall

Second Chief

Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Church: Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church
Family: parents, the late Bill and Margaret Marshall; grandparents, the late Joe and Herspey Lowe, Phillip and Anna Marshall
Education: A.A. from Eastern Oklahoma State College; Bachelor Degree in Pyschology-Sociology from East Central University
Experience: Experience in the field of education, corrections, human and Indigenous rights.

Platform: Marshall has lived and worked in New York State. She has worked with Indigenous communities in various parts of the world. She will work to restructure and streamline tribal government and business development. She will work to improve and bring a new vitality to the Second Chief's office.

Donna Faye Martin

Second Chief

Clan: Kotcha (Tiger)
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Church: Batist
Family: two sons, one daughter and two grandchildren; parents are Margaret (Alexander) Freeman and Jess Freeman
Education: Graduated Tulsa Central. Attended Northeastern State University and Tulsa Junior College
Experience: Director and founder of Tulsa Indian Youth Council; Deputy County Treasurer for Chief Dode McIntosh; Regional Tech for U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census; Minority Coordinator for Tulsa American Red Cross ; recruiter for American Indian Research and Development; trainer for the Native American Bone Marrow Recruitment project; Manager of Community Research and Development for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Served two terms as a National Council Representative; President of the National Indian Education and was a presidential appointee to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education.

Platform: I support economic development, education and health. Economic development can mean more jobs for our tribe. I had the privilege of meeting with other tribes and observed how they were developing their economic structure by planning and having foresight for their future.

I am a strong supporter of education. Our tribe has pre-school through college students and I encourage parents, grandparents and all family to support our Creek students because they are our future.

Our hospital is old and if plans have been made to replace the present one, I would be glad to work with the health board. Elder care for our seniors, such as the facility in Okmulgee, needs to be expanded to other areas of the Nation.

Economic development, education and health working together can build a stronger nation. Times are changing and we need to prepare a better future for our children, communities and Creek citizens. God bless and mvto.

Tom Pickering

Second Chief

Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: Hitchita
Church: West Eufaula Indian Baptist
Family: wife, Judith; sons, Sheridan and Judd; grandchildren, Bluebird, August, Hayden; daughter-in-law, Myra
Education: Sequoyah High School; Central Tech; OSU Tech; attended Bacone

Platform: I believe it is TIME TO INVEST IN CREEKS! Several leaders in the tribe have asked me to run for Second Chief. I believe my experience of 17 years as a representative have given me insight as to the path this tribe needs to be taken.

This tribe has grown so much that we need to diversify and promote economic development in order to meet the needs of our people and to protect and provide for our elderly and children.

As former Chairman of the Eufaula Community, I have applied my business skills in order to help diversify and succeed. We were able to reform three new profitable businesses. I can bring honesty and integrity to this office and be an asset to this great tribe. We can achieve this together. As leaders we need to listen to our people and help promote our joint efforts and endeavors.

2011 CANDIDATES

Travis Scott

Second Chief

Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Kialegee
Church: Springfield United Methodist
Family: two sons, Jalen and Kyle Scott
Education: Haskell Indian Nations University; Seminole State College

Platform: It is a pleasure to express my gratitude and appreciation for electing me as your Okfuskee National Council representative for the past six years. With your help, we have succeeded in achieving our objectives to address issues throughout the term. In our future campaign, I believe many issues and concerns will be addressed. I believe in strengthening tribal government through careful structuring and implementation. I understand the importance of protecting Creek values and traditions to preserve our identity for future generations. Most of all, the Second Chief must be capable of working with the Principal Chief and other governmental branches toward improving our nation. I pledge to bring integrity and stability to our great nation.

Jerry Wilson

Second Chief

Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Tulsa Little River
Church: Tulsa Hills Baptist Church
Family: parents, Alfred and Mendie Ruth Wilson; 13 brothers and sisters
Education: Bachelor's Degree in Business; Master's in Administration from Northeastern State University
Experience: Over ten years of business ownership experience; over 25 years of management and administration experience; over ten years of National Council experience; over five years of tribal government administrative experience

Platform: To promote the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in all areas of health, education, housing, social services, economic development and small business development, balancing the needs of the people with the needs of the tribal government. In addition, providing administrative support to the Office of the Principal Chief, administration, service programs, and to the overall government at-large. Also, to research and evaluate service programs and submit policy recommendations to the National Council and to the Office of the Principal Chief. An added scope of my platform will be to get more Muscogee people involved in the tribal government; and to promote the recognition of tribal sovereignty and jurisdiction at the local, state, and federal levels of government. Finally, to recommend a restructuring of tribal priorities to insure that the tribal government is controlled and operated by the people that it intends to serve.

David Hill

National Council - Creek District

Clan: Echaswv (Beaver)
Tribal Town: New Tulsa/Okfuskee
Family: married to Monica (Watson) Hill; daughters, ShaRee, ShaLae and ShaVon; two grandchildren; parents are Jo Ann Hill and the late George Hill; grandparents, the late Sarah (Coker) Hicks and Cheparney Ahfonoke
Experience: Served for Creek District on 2008-2011 term. Appointed to the Tribal Affairs committee, Fact Finding committee and currently serving as the Sergeant-at-Arms. Employed in the aviation industry at the NORDAM Group for 22 years.

Platform: It has been an honor and privilege to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. I've enjoyed visiting with our people and taking their concerns to our Nation. I look forward to serving another four years and am hopeful that we can have a united government that can prosper to meet the needs of our citizens.

Francis Morgan

National Council - Creek District

Clan: Wind
Church: Montesoma Indian Baptist Church
Education: A.A. from Bacone Junior College; attended Northeastern State University

Platform: An ethics and merit committee could be established for all employees including probationary hires who felt they were wrongfully terminated. This would curtail some managers/supervisors from firing an employee unjustly. During a 90-day probationary period, a new hire can be fired any time with or without cause. Also since the casino employees have different management, each should have their own human resources person. Just because our community is under proclamation doesn't mean our representatives should have gone MIA. When I was fired, only one of my three representatives called me back. I was helped and encouraged more by other community's representatives and Ken Davis in the Veteran Affairs Office. I can be an advocate for our Indian employees. A good advocate too, because I'm tired of the indifference and inefficiency of my representatives.

2011 CANDIDATES

Jacob Mosquito

National Council - Creek District

Family: parents, Craig and Debra Mosquito; daughters, Alexandria and Jeream Mosquito
Education: attended Oklahoma State University and University of Indianapolis

Platform: Now is the time! The time for us all to work together to bring our nation to the front. We are a great nation and I am going to strive to pool all our resources to shape our collective vision. To leave behind a brighter future! I whole-heartedly believe we are capable in today's economy to be the front-runner in progress for our communities and tribal members. Help me, so I can help you. Please, if all registered voters show up and vote, we can show our strength in our numbers. I am looking forward to serving you as your Creek District Representative, Seat A. MVTO!

Selina Jayne Dornan

National Council - McIntosh District

Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Eufavla/Canadi
Church: Lighthouse Christian Center
Family: mother, Janetta (Lewis) Walker; grandmother, Selanie Michell
Education: Eufaula High School; A.A. from Eastern Oklahoma State College; Education Degree from Oklahoma State University; studied Business Administration/Accounting, Bacone College
Experience: Four years as a Council Representative for McIntosh District; Established and owned four businesses: three in Eufaula and one in McAlester. Currently serving as Mayor of the city of Eufaula

Platform: I have spent the last four years speaking out for the communities inside and outside my district. I want to continue to use the experience I have gained to be the voice of the people and to help move our nation forward. I have established contacts with state, federal and municipal governments that would benefit our nation. Our communities, our elders and economic development are top priorities. We need leaders that are not afraid to think outside the box and look down the road for sources to maintain our nation and continue our heritage. I would appreciate your support. Mvto!

Joseph Hicks

National Council - McIntosh District

Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Church: Baptist
Family: Married; three children
Education: Wilson High School; Connors State, EMT School at OSU-IT
Experience: U.S. Army 2001-2005

Platform: If elected as council representative of McIntosh County, I will be available to all Creek citizens that have any questions or concerns, and if not in my district guide them or refer them to or in any direction to get them the answers. I have hopes of bringing a new respect to the council and getting all the voices and issues of citizens of McIntosh County heard. Respectful family upbringing and serving in the U.S. Army taught me to be fair, honest and truthful as I will be with all Creek citizens.

Tony Notaro

National Council - McIntosh District

Clan: Tiger
Tribal Town: Tuskegee
Church: First Baptist
Education: University of Maryland, studied business and finance

Platform: Hensci. As a former two-term council member I feel it is time to run again for improving our nation with a vision for growth and unity. While in office, 2004-2007, my focus was on creating an atmosphere of a business-minded approach for our nation. My past legislative record is a true reference to this fact. Now as a business owner in this tough economy it is even more crucial that we focus on other revenue matching business than to fully rely on gaming and tobacco. Job creation for our people is a top priority of mine and can be accomplished through training and education investments for our people. Making smart investments in business will only help our nation more while creating an even greater revenue source to help our healthcare, social programs and economic situation of our nation. May God bless you and our nation. Mvto.

2011 CANDIDATES

Darrell Proctor

National Council - McIntosh District

Clan: Ecovlke (Deer)

Church: Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church

Family: wife, Robin Proctor; daughters, Kelsey and Amberly; son, Darrell II; parents, Minnie (Proctor) Cannon; grandson of the late Andy and Judy (Lasley) Proctor.

Education: Associate Degree in Computer Integrated Systems Service, OSU-Okmulgee

Experience: Deacon, Sunday School Director, and Treasure for Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church

Platform: I will continue to serve by seeking the best interests for all citizens and promoting unity in our tribe. We can work together and accomplish great things for our nation. As we come together, we can move forward; always remembering our past and striving to improve the future for our children. It has been an honor and privilege to serve the last four years as your McIntosh District National Council Representative. I respectfully ask for your support and vote on Sept. 17, 2011. Mvto.

Mose 'Pete' Beaver

National Council - Muskogee District

Clan: Deer

Tribal Town: Weogufkee

Church: Big Cussetah Indian United Methodist

Family: parents, the late John and Della Mae Beaver; wife, Bridget; son, John

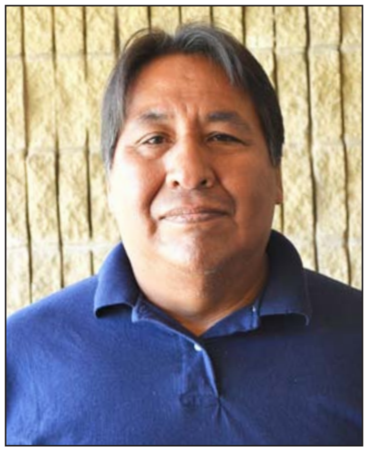
Education: B.S. and M.S. degrees in Education, Northeastern State University

Experience: 17 years experience in public education for Tulsa, Bixby and Okmulgee Public Schools; Director of Counseling, Connors State College; 22 years in Indian Education Section for the Oklahoma Sate Department of Education; Co-authored Native Americans: Leaders in the 21st Century, a comprehensive satement plant to certify Native American languages as credit courses in Oklahoma Public Schools; 10 years as a designee of State Deparmtnet of Education on the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission; Oklahoma State Department of Education representative, Council of Chief State School officers; Six years on the National Council; six-year member of the Business and Governmental Committee

Platform: It is my goal to be of service to our nation through innovative thinking and support of programs, which advance the key areas of education and economic development. I will serve with integrity and uphold my oath to support the constitution and protect our tribal sovereignty. I believe my life experiences, both personal and professional, have prepared me for this role.

Franklin J. Coachman

National Council - Okfuskee District



Clan: Bear

Tribal Town: Big Nation (Etvlwv Rakko)

Church: Arbeka United Methodist

Ceremonial Ground: Greenleaf

Family: son of Joe (Kammy) Coachman and Netti McCullar-Coachman

Education: Butner High School; A.S. in electronics, Haskell Junior College; studied computer electronics at Seminole Junior College; studied general studies at Oklahoma Baptist Univerisity

Experience: Retired from Exxon Mobil Films division with 34 years of service.

Platform: I am proud to be a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. As your representative I will strive to make our nation a stronger one.

Communication with our citizens is one to improve on. We need to build a better bridge to reach our citizens by making applications more user friendly and by helping our elders to understand them.

Business needs to be more diversified. We need to create more jobs for our citizens.

Healthcare, the Creek Nation used to be a leader in healthcare among tribes. We are not anymore. We need to change this.

Cultural preservation is also important. Maintaining our way of life as it used to be must be carried on. Our language needs to be brought back to the forefront. If you know a little of the language, teach it to your young. If you know songs, teach them to your young. Let my voice be your voice. Mvto.

Sandra Golden

National Council - Okfuskee District

Clan: Deer

Tribal Town: Nuyaka

Church: Sprinfield Methodist Church

Family: son, Thomas; parents, Minnie Jeffley and Eugene Golden; grandparents, Fannie McNac and Tewee Jeffley

Education: Thomas High School; A.A. at Bacone College; B.A. from Southwestern Oklahoma Sate University; Master's in Public Health from University of California, Berkley

Experience: Two terms on the National Council; work experience in local, tribal, state and national programs in administration and planning in various health, education and social services programs. Ten plus years serving on boards and committees.

Platform: I currently work part-time for a youth services agency providing outreach prevention education for schools in Okfuskee County. In addition to my education and experience, I will bring to the table, a positive attitude with commitment to change for the better, including being responsible and accountable. It is time to speak up for change! Change takes courage to do what is right for the good of all, for a select few. The position on the council is not just to represent the citizens in one district, but for all citizens, regardless of where they are. Life's challenges are not the same for everyone, but I do know many of them. I believe it provides me with the foundation for the serious decisions that must be made to invest in our future for our children and to hold on to the resources our elders possess. I know who I will answer to if I should stray! Mvto.

2011 CANDIDATES

Sherryl Gonseth

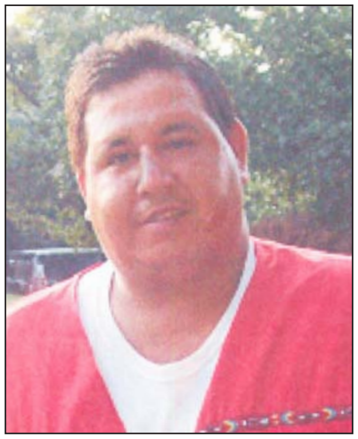
National Council - Okfuskee District

Clan: Wind
Family: married to Clarence Gonseth; two children, Carla Brown and Eric Gonseth. Daughter of Gerald and Carmelita Hardin; granddaughter of Mary (Deer) Hardin
Experience: 31 years of experience working with federal, tribal and the private sector agencies: Muscogee (Creek) Nation 11 years, four years private sector, two years Ponca Tribe including holding the position as Executive Director and 14 years as an independent consultant.

Platform: Ensure effective oversight over all financial resources.
Our tribe has been facing systematic failures and evaporating oversight controls of tribal government for years resulting in lack of accountability and transparency to the Creek people. If elected as your representative I will strive to represent the people to: work to create and bring greater accountability and transparency to our government; support the health care services in their efforts to improve the quality of our health care; support our employees by pursuing all avenues available to help meet the needs of all Creek citizens; ensuring all our services are more accessible and available to tribal members; work toward successful economic development; support our traditional values; be available to all Creek citizens and place their needs first when making decisions as an elected official. "We work for the people, not the other way around." Mvto.

Mitch Allen Jack

National Council - Okfuskee District



Clan: Konovlke (Skunk)
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Ceremonial Ground: Alvpamv mososwa to was. (Alabama)
Education: Dustin High School; College of the Muscogee Nation; plans to finish education dgree at Seminole State College
Experience: Previous work for the MCN as a security officer, JOM coordinator and for the Cultural Preservation Department. Currently a Seminole Nation Immersion School language teacher.

Platform: "I am dedicated to the care and responsibility to all generations of the Mvskoke citizens." I believe the Mvskoke citizens are a thriving nation and is time for them to persevere in a unified and collaborative effort. Cultural and traditional values are important to Mitch and he hopes as your representative to focus on: strengthening the Mvskoke language, elder and youth outreach, health and wellness of Mvskoke citizens, vision and empowerment, peace and harmony within leadership. Growing up with Mvskoke as his first language he understands the responsibility to serve the Mvskoke people and believes that he can fulfill the duties as your National Council representative. "VMOSA TES CE. MVTO!"

Nancy Watson

National Council - Okfuskee District

Clan: Eco (Deer)
Church: Prairie Springs Indian Baptist Church
Family: parents, the late Calvin and Agnes (Fixico) West; two daughters; five grandchildren
Experience: Served three terms on the National Council. Served on the Human Development committee, fact-finding committee; active member in Okfuskee Indian Community; Active member on the Mason Public Schools Board of Education

Platform: To be a representative that is a strong advocate for the people. I was asked to run for MCN National Council, because the people are ready for a change of pace. For years, we have been at a standstill, and the people are ready to move forward, in all aspects of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. It's time to listen, to work together and to resolve our problems.
We need economic growth; without it, our programs suffer and our citizens suffer the because of the lack of funds. I may not have all the answers, but if there is one to be had, I will make every effort to find it. I can assure you that a vote for me will be a vote for the people. Let's move forward together!

James Jennings

National Council - Okmulgee District

Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Church: Second Baptist Church
Family: Wife, Joyce; three sons-Keith, Clint and Chad; five grandchildren, Colton, Alexandria, Kaitlin, Lucas and Cannon; mother, the late Peraline Day; grandparents, Henry Day and Yarner Watson Day
Education: Sequoyah High School
Experience: United States Army for three years; served on Human Development committee, Fact Finding committee and Internal Affairs Committee. Serving as Ex-offico on the Board of Regents for the College of the Muscogee Nation.

Platform: To continue to follow the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The only reason anyone should run for the National Council is to pass laws that better the people. We need to make our government work better and repeal laws that are not needed by the citizens.
"The only way things change is through laws." We must do that by moving forward together.

2011 CANDIDATES

Charley LaSarge

National Council - Okmulgee District

Family: wife, Della Mae Dunzy; daughters, Charlotte, Charlene and Carmen; son, Charley II; five grandsons and one granddaughter
Experience: President of Oklahoma/New Mexico Food Action Committe for Tribes; National Association for Food Distribution for four years; Southwest Regions Advisory Committe, Vice Chairman; Writing grants/obtaining contracts; 12 years with food distribution; two years with ESA (Housing improvements); four and a half years with health administration; Okmulgee Indian Community, Chariman

Platform: Goals and Objectives: Planning of elderly and youth conferences at the community level to try to involve our children with daily operations of the tribe; look at ways of restructuring the health system to be more cost effective and efficient to get more services from the money; positive working relations with all branches of our government, ceremonial grounds, churches, communities, etc. Strong believer of community involvement. Potential economic development ventures included: nursing homes, funeral homes, and juvenile detention centers. We have continually heard talk but let's take action and obtain these possible ventures!

Lanissa Jack-Melton

National Council - Okmulgee District

Clan: Skunk
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Family: married to Christopher Melton; three children, Dylan, Ryan and Nathaniel Melton; mother is Angela Jack Fullmore; Raised by LeeAnn Jack; grandparents are the late Mitchell Jack and Louma Piegon Jack
Education: A.S. in Precision Agriculture, A.A. in Business Management, A.S. in Pre-Early Education, and an A.S. in Secondary Education all from OSU-IT
Experience: Assistant Deputy Director of Muskogee Development for the Port of Muskogee; Vice-Chairman of the Okmulgee Indian Community Center; Supervisor/Crew Leader for U.S. Census; Former acting Director of Tourism and Recreation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Accounts Maintenance Technician for the Department of the Interior, Office of the Special Trustee; Land Analyst Coordinator and Realty Assistant for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Trust Services

Platform: I believe in honesty, this is a key essential to have. Honesty refers to a moral character with positive, virtuous attributes such as integrity, truthfulness and straightforwardness. Along with ethics that should be practiced in arbitration with law; I would use ethics in a matter of balancing right from wrong decisions by placing each situation on a different level. The language needs to be implemented at a higher level.

I also believe in fairness to have unity everyone should work together as a team. This is how the Muscogee (Creek) Nation can and will become successful in the future. We need to have more employment opportunities and with new economic ventures by bringing more jobs to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation this will help benefit job security. With my background and proven leadership ability and common sense, I believe that I would be the best candidate for this position.

David Nichols

National Council - Okmulgee District

Clan: Wotko (Raccoon)
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Church: Salt Creek United Indian Methodist Church
Family: wife, Ginger; sons, David and Jason; parents were Bobby Harjo and Joyce Joan Fixico; grandson of the late Big Bill and Edda Harjo and the late Joe Fixico and Nargie Fixico
Experience: 27 years in the oil industry; 16 years on the National Council

Platform: As a tribal leader I want to see more dollars provided to the nation's health care programs. Health care affects each citizen in some way. The nation must provide more dollars in education to provide for our future leaders. Businesses must be created to provide jobs for our citizens and also create more revenue dollars. There are other tribal programs that are very important that must be reviewed for improvement that serve the citizens in many ways. The nation's spending must be reduced from wants to needs in order to maintain good programs.

Federal dollars and gaming revenues will not always provide for our government. As I mentioned before, creating businesses is a must. Also, we as leaders must work together daily for one goal; to strengthen our nation and build a stronger government, which our people can be proud of.

Sandra Peters

National Council - Okmulgee District

Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Arbeka-Tulledga
Church: Big Arbor Baptist Church
Family: children, Reuben, Dr. Justus Peters, Elizabeth and Rebecca Peters
Education: B.A. in Art Education
Experience: Currently a Special Advisor to the President of Bacone College as a consultant; National Council 2000-2004; MCN Johnson O'Malley Program for seven years; Health Division as Communications Coordinator

Platform: "Never before have we been faced with a nation so battle weary. It is a time where a National Council Representative must be a stalwart and true warrior." I am a businesswoman and have worked with the corporate level for 30 years. I have started my own business in promotions, brokerage and insurance. I am a Native American artist, documentary playwright and Muscogee cultural historian.

"I support and defend stronger communities, the development of economic business and resources, moral responsibility and accountability in leadership, and protection of our elders, our youth and our cultural history and language." My leadership will be accountable and responsible to the Muscogee citizens I will serve. I need your vote. MVTO!

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

August 15, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 12

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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Staff recognized at NAJA

• MCN Communications wins three awards

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department was recognized with three awards at the Native American Journalists Association Media Awards in July. Pictured above are Multimedia Supervisor Jason Salsman, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Editor Rebecca Landsberry and Manager Gerald Wofford.

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department was honored with three awards at the 2011 Native American Journalists Association Media Awards in July.

Multimedia Supervisor Jason Salsman was recognized for his work with *Native News Today* in the televeision category.

"It's great to get recognition for the show and for the Nation. We're proud of the fact that Creek people can watch a television program that provides them with tribal information, and also brings awareness to our culture and the great things our citizens are doing," Salsman said.

Communications Manager Gerald Wofford won two awards for his contributions to the *Muscogee Nation News*. Wofford placed second in the Best Sports Story and Best News Story categories for Division IV.

"I couldn't have done it without my staff. I think we've got the best department in the tribe and it's an honor to be recognized this way. It speaks for our department as a whole," Wofford said.

Morris Indian Community officer elections set for Sept. 1, 2011

Media Release
Morris Indian Community

MORRIS — Morris Indian Community is making a public notice that elections will be held Sept. 1, 2011 at the Trinity Baptist Church in Morris, Okla.

If any Morris Indian Community member wishes to become a candidate for office, they must contact the Election Committee to make a formal request in writing.

Interested potential candidates may contact Monnie Underwood at (918) 706-8118 or Christine Durden at (918) 733-2615.

The deadline for applications is Aug. 11, 2011 and the election will be held Sept. 1, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Annual Diabetes Summit to feature Tonemah and Ponder

Media Release
MCN Diabetes Prevention Program

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit
Kerretv momen Yekcetv, To Know and To Be Strong
"Remembering Our Past to Empower Our Present and Lead in the Future"

SAPULPA — The Fifth Annual MCN Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit will be held at the First Christian Church, 220 East Lee Avenue in Sapulpa, Friday, Aug. 26, 2011.

Participants should arrive from 7 a.m. - 8:45 a.m., for cholesterol checks (fasting is required) and registration for the event.

Choices of exercise include: walking, Tai Chi, yoga or chair exercises which will begin at 7:30 a.m.

The summit program will be held from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Lunch and snacks will be provided and the free event is open to all tribal citizens as well as spouses or support persons and other American Indians living in MCN communities.

SEE SUMMIT - A4

A2 LEGAL
Letter to the Editor

A3 LEGAL
Letter from the Editor

A4 CAPITOL NEWS
Veterans' Scoop: Motorcycle Ride and Pass-in-Review set for Fall 2011

A6 EDUCATION
College of the Muscogee Nation moves toward accreditation

A8 SPORTS
The Bencoma boys are back

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF

Manager - Gerald Wofford
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Reporter - Gary Fife
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Photography - Mallory Bible
Circulation - Wilma Murphy
Intern Reporter - Lee Longhorn

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letter to the editor

Citizen offers perspective on MCN election season

OKMULGEE — It's summertime, and all the ceremonial grounds are in full swing.

I've spent the last two weekends dancing deep in the night till the dawn breaks in the Eastern skies. My heart is lifted as I remember the little ones holding the hands of loved ones while dancing around the ceremonial fire. One elder, asked to lead a dance, approached the fire with his walker, followed by family and supporters proving to me one can never be too old to remain connected with the old ways of the Mvskokvlke.

All who came were welcomed, fed very well, and embraced as friends. In these places, where the history and traditions of our people is alive and well, there is only acceptance.

No fighting, no liquor, no spanking children who may be acting out, but a general feeling of respect for one another. I remember thinking, "This is who we are, or, at least who we once were." It's a beautiful place to spend a summer evening connecting with the ways of our ancestors.

Now, what is it about our people who seem to forget these ways in our everyday lives?

We are in a time of choosing who will lead us into the future. Citizens are running for office positions on council, second chief, and the executive of our Nation, the principal chief. It is important to consider nothing but TRUTH at this crucial time.

It is our responsibility to make good choices in who will lead us into the future.

Good questions to ask ourselves when we consider the candidates:

1. Is this person an honorable person who puts others above themselves?
2. Does he/she consider what is best for the Nation before how their new position will benefit them, their friends, or their family?
3. Are they competent?
4. Do they understand the Constitution of the Muscogee Nation?
5. Will they uphold the Laws written in the Constitution?
6. Do they understand the responsibilities and what is required of them in the position they are running for?
7. If they've been there before, did they do their job according to the criteria described in the questions above?

Well, "So and so said . . . about . . ." I hear such words a lot these days. This is not TRUTH. It is rumor, or gossip, or hearsay, it is not the truth.

So, what is the truth? It is hard to say in such matters. We judge people by what we read, see and often by what we hear. Let us listen carefully so we may discern the truth with our minds, and our hearts. What is best for all the people? It should be an honor to serve the people, and sadly, I judge some may not share this point of view.

I've only been back home for a couple of years after working all around the country for a long time, and have been watching, listening, and reading up on what's going in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation since I came home.

It is good to be home! I see so much good in the people. Many who are working hard to preserve the culture and ways of our ancestors, lest it be lost to our grandchildren.

Many others, who seem to have learned all to well the ways of the conquering people's government and business, are trying to escalate further the assimilation of the Mvskokvlke. Don't get me wrong, we must do business, and have a government to thrive in this world. Do we have to lose our connection to our origins, and the ways of our ancestors? Where are the disciplines of our ancestors reflected in our government?

What happened to integrity, accountability and honor?

Mvto,
Lonnie Hamilton
Mvskoke (Creek) citizen

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from April 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011 are as follows:

Traffic:

MCN v. Sarah Mills	Public Intoxication
MCN v. Sarah Mills	Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage
MCN v. Robert Cribb	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Joshua Rogers	No Insurance
MCN v. Terry Arnove	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Karen Toliver	DUS
MCN v. Mitchell Kendall	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Nathan Givens	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Kathryn Moran	Disorderly Conduct

Marriage Licenses:

Amber Bruner v. Dillan Parker	Marriage License

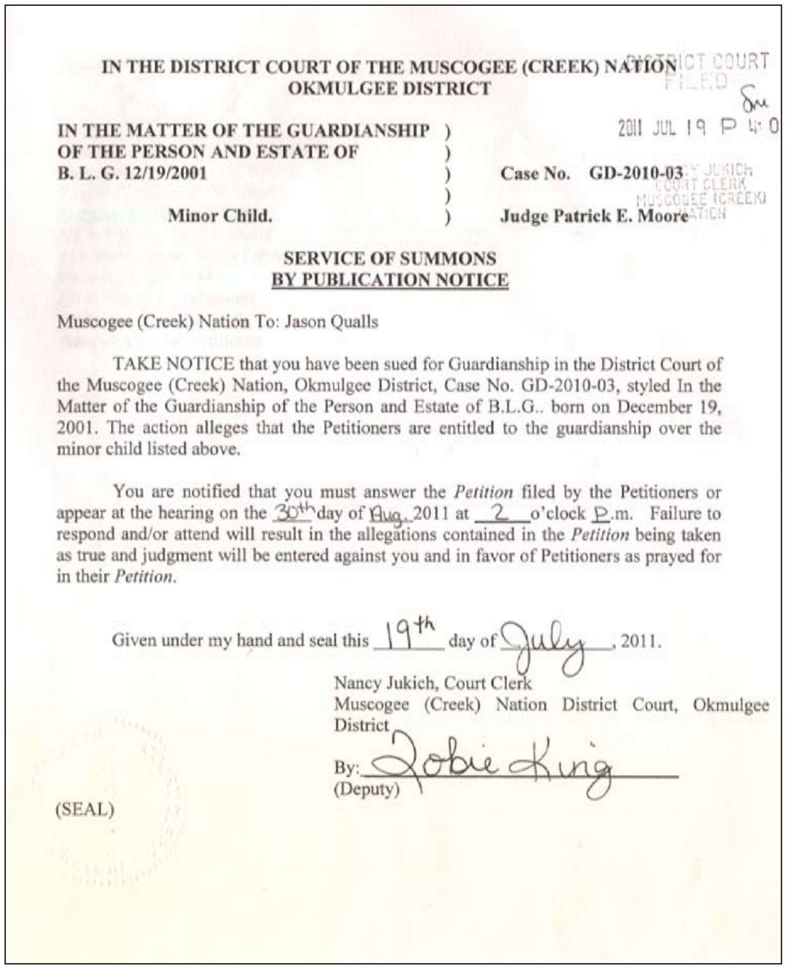
The District Court filings from May 1, 2011 through May 30, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Liberty Finance v. Taryn McCargo	Small Claims
Roy Harris Jr., v. Emily Rasmussen	Petition
Dixie Finance v. Taryn McCargo	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Steve Lowe	Small Claims
Liberty Finance v. Katherine Willie	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Cerena Gray	Small Claims
LVNV Funding, LLC., v. Carey Colvin	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Melissa George	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Crystal Baldridge	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Cecily Dickson-Varela	Foreign Judgment
Pamela Sue Miller v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation d/b/a Creek Nation Casino	Petition
Jeffrey Williams v. Kimberly Lindsey	Petition
Progressive Car Insurance v. Stephanie Dowling	Foreign Judgment
Linda Jeffers v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation and River Spirit Casinos	Petition
Brittany McGuire v. Michael Delaney	Petition

Divorce:

Patsy Hedge v. James McDaniel	Divorce
Jacqueline Gibbs v. Ira Gibbs	Divorce
Heidi George v. Christopher George	Divorce
Cristina Stange v. Clinton Stange	Divorce



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JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF)
B. L. G. 12/19/2001) Case No. GD-2010-03
)
Minor Child.) Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Jason Qualls

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD-2010-03, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of B.L.G.. born on December 19, 2001. The action alleges that the Petitioners are entitled to the guardianship over the minor child listed above.

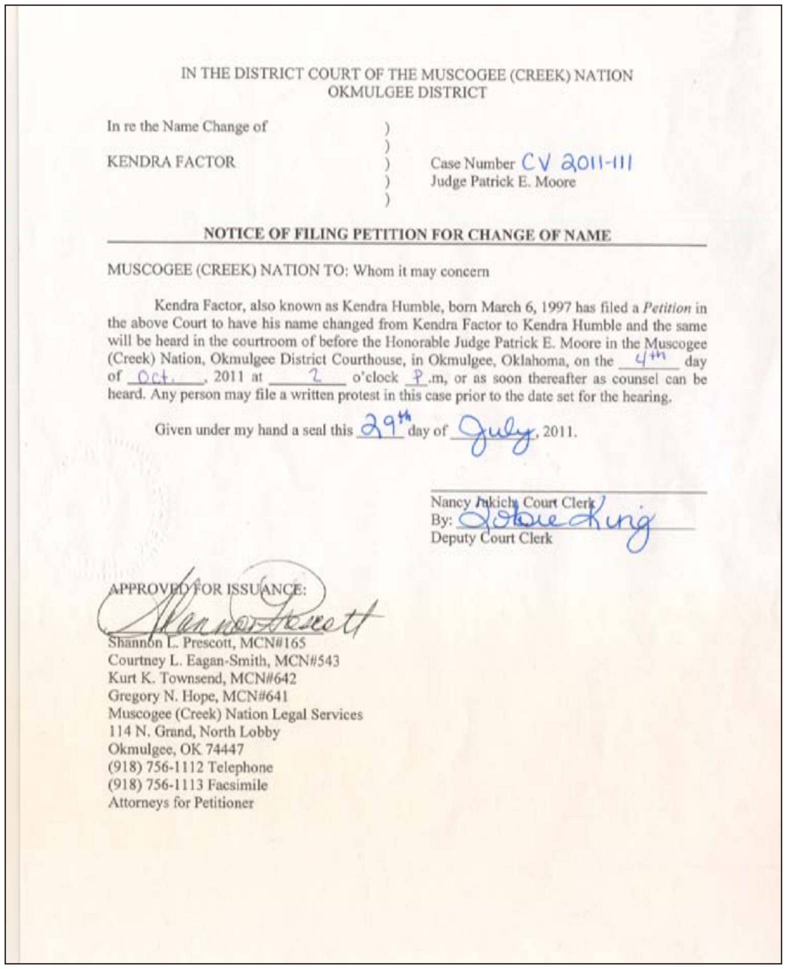
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioners or appear at the hearing on the 30th day of Aug. 2011 at 2 o'clock P.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioners as prayed for in their *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 19th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Tobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Name Change of)
)
KENDRA FACTOR) Case Number CV 2011-111
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

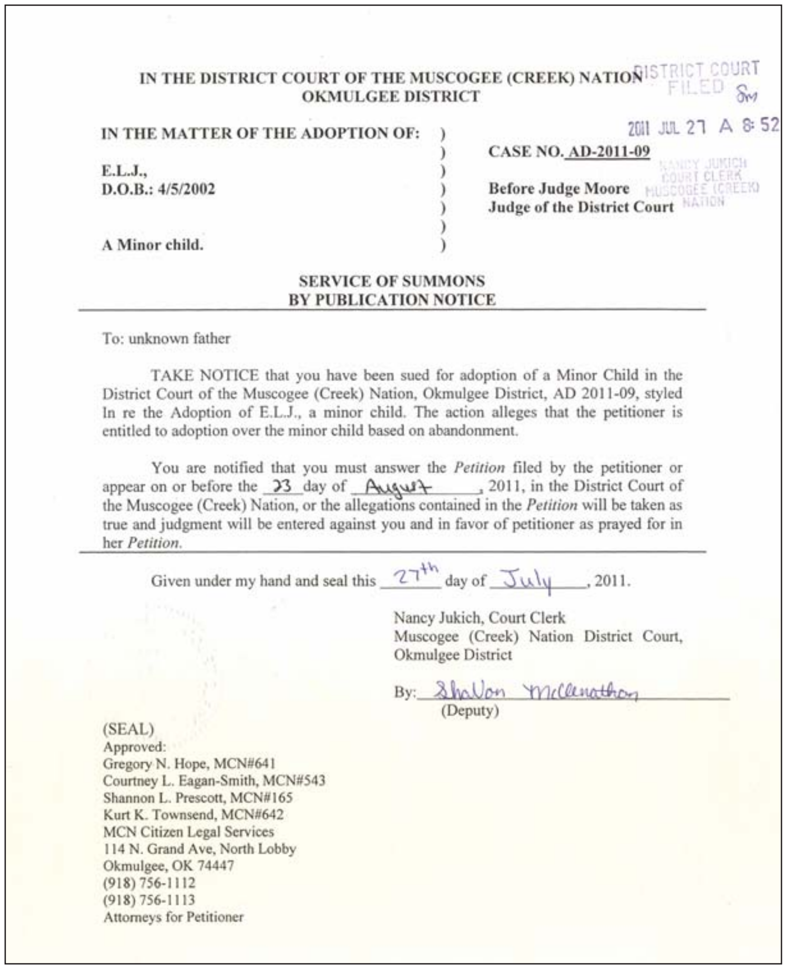
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Kendra Factor, also known as Kendra Humble, born March 6, 1997 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Kendra Factor to Kendra Humble and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 4th day of Oct., 2011 at 2 o'clock P.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 29th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Tobie King
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:
Shannon Prescott
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



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2011 JUL 27 A 8:52
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:)
) CASE NO. AD-2011-09
E.L.J.,)
D.O.B.: 4/5/2002) Before Judge Moore
) Judge of the District Court
)
A Minor child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: unknown father

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for adoption of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, AD 2011-09, styled In re the Adoption of E.L.J., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to adoption over the minor child based on abandonment.

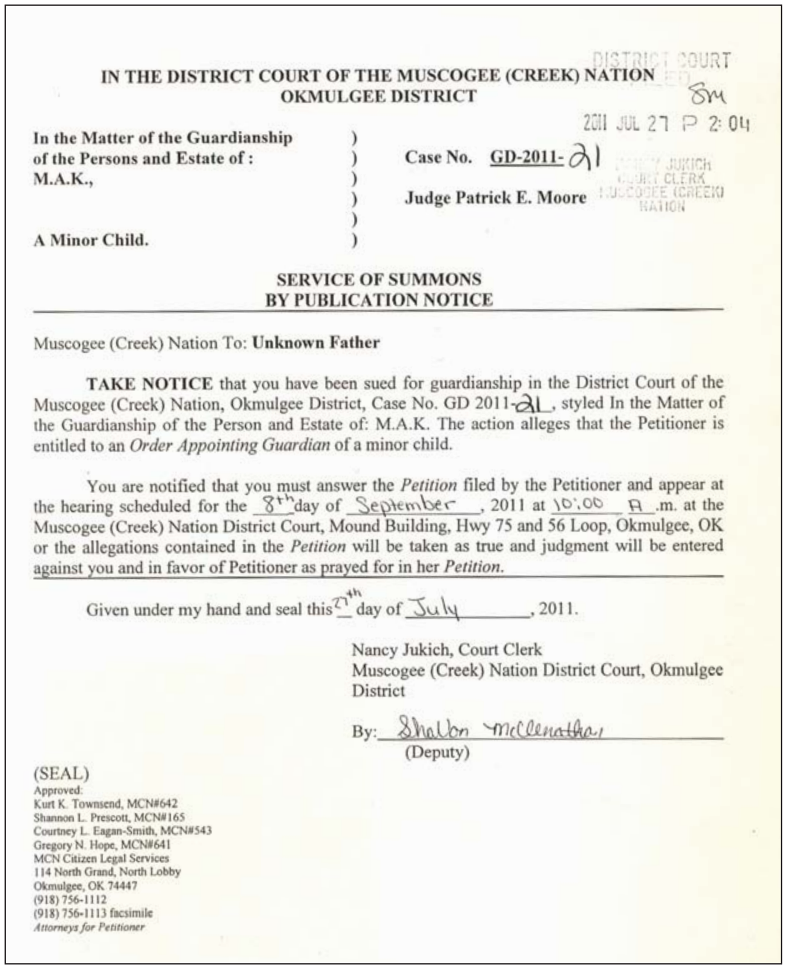
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on or before the 23 day of August, 2011, in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 27th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: ShaVon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner



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JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estate of :) Case No. GD-2011-21
M.A.K.,)
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)
A Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: **Unknown Father**

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD 2011-21, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: M.A.K. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to an *Order Appointing Guardian* of a minor child.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 8th day of September, 2011 at 10:00 A.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 27th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: ShaVon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — I am already missing my California Creeks! This year's meeting was informative and a great time of fellowship.

I want to respond to a candidate's address, which included misleading information regarding the Muscogee Nation News.

This publication is a culmination of my Indian blood, sweat and tears and though I have certainly made mistakes, I take it very personally when someone chooses to make erroneous statements regarding my work.

One of the statements, "You shouldn't believe everything you read in the newspaper," I wholeheartedly agree with.

The MNN publishes staff-writen articles, departmental submissions, public notices and legal information as well as features spotlighting the accomplishments of our citizens but don't make the MNN the alpha and omega when it comes to educating yourself about the tribe (though it is the best place to start, in my opinion).

Make an effort to look beyond our publication and do some research on your own, especially where our leaders and future leaders are concerned.

My door is always open, so if there is something you want to share where news coverage is concerned, all are welcome. It is the citizens to whom I am ultimately responsible. Mvto for reading.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop:
motorcylces and marching

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

Motorcycle ride set for Friday, Oct. 14

OKMULGEE — VASO will be hosting a Muscogee veteran motorcycle ride on Friday, Oct. 14, 2011 at 5 p.m.

We will assemble at 1500 at the Veterans Building. From the Veterans Building, in formation we will be traveling to the 5 and Diner restaurant in Tulsa.

After dinner, we will then travel to the Admiral Twin Drive-In theater for a movie. Muscogee Veteran motorcycle riders are allowed to bring one guest but the guest must ride with the veteran.

VASO will pay for the dinner and the movie. Please call Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739 to confirm your participation.

Pass-in-Review set for Nov. 10, 2011

OKMULGEE — This year in celebration of Veteran's Day, we will conduct a Pass-in-Review march as is the same with the United States of America Nov. 10, 2011.

The newly-elected and outgoing President is granted the honor of having the United States military Pass-in-Review. We are no different.

The purpose of a Pass-in-Review is to honor the elected civilian leadership and to confirm to all, the military is under command and control of the civilian officials.

We will conduct a Pass-in-Review to honor Principal Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, and our newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

The order of march will be Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps.

We plan on casting 400 commemorative coins to be given to participating Muscogee veterans after the march. The coins will have the Muscogee (Creek)seal and Veterans Office.

Coins numbers 1/400 will be given to Principal Chief Ellis, coin 2/400 will be given to Second Chief Berryhill, 399/400 will be given to the newly elected Second Chief and 400/400 will be given to the newly-elected Principal Chief.

The symbolism of these coins' numbers to our chiefs is to confirm the military is within command and control of our civilian officials.

We will assemble at 10 a.m. Nov. 10, 2011 at the Veterans Building where we will form and rehearse until 12 p.m. Chow is from 12-1 p.m. From 1-2 p.m., we will conduct a dry run and last minute adjustments. At 2 p.m., we will conduct a Pass-in-Review, which will be from VASO to the east of the Mound Building.

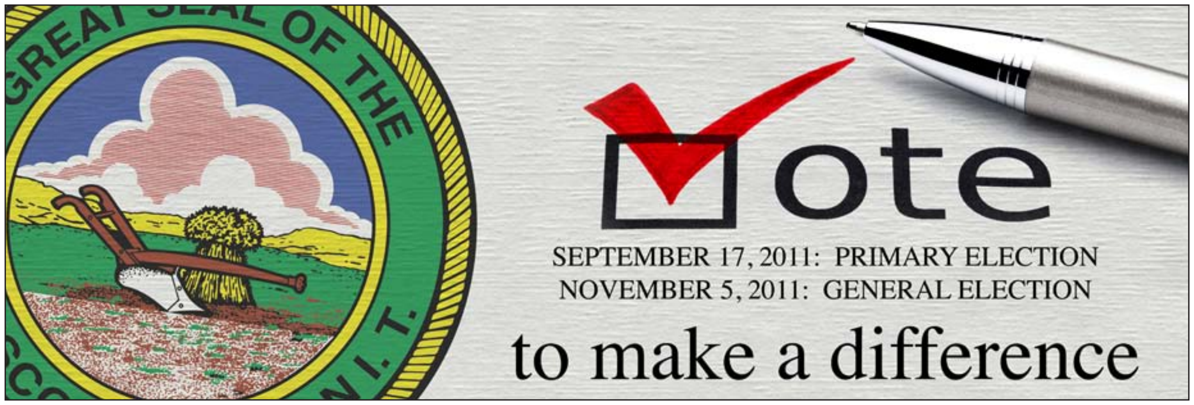
Please contact VASO your commemorative coin may be reserved. In closing, we march once every four years to honor the peaceful transition of power in our tribe; it should be honored and will be protected and recognized by us, the veterans of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

God bless our Muscogee Veterans, our Muscogee (Creek) Nation and our continued peaceful political process.

The Veterans' Scoop features articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

VETERANS SCOOP

MCN veterans urged to particpate in upcoming election


GREAT SEAL OF THE
N. I. T.
Vote
SEPTEMBER 17, 2011: PRIMARY ELECTION
NOVEMBER 5, 2011: GENERAL ELECTION
to make a difference

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

OKMULGEE — We have fought and served in the military all over the world, and sometimes we were just unable to vote. It is a privilege and honor, but more importantly it is a duty that we have sacrificed for and earned.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal elections are forthcoming; democracy only works when we participate. If you haven't registered to vote, register now.

Perhaps it is easier not to vote and let others decide the election, those who cast their votes do indeed have the right to criticize and compliment. In recent years, our voter turnout has been abysmal.

For those of you who say you have no impact, or nothing changes, you are wrong. Our next elected tribal leaders will be engaged, responsible, and responsive. All you have to do is vote.

Ask the candidates questions, voice concerns and recommendations then get out and vote. Far too often we rely on rumors instead of getting solid facts. Your vote must always be based on informed and timely facts.

We, as Muscogee veterans, truly should be the first in line when the voting stations are opened. Muscogee veterans are the military arm of our tribe. We have the privilege of electing our leaders and our role after that is to be under the command and control of our civilian officials.

Hold very close and protect our continued gift of voting. We all know the right to vote has been earned with blood, sweat, and tears. In summation, if you do not vote, Muscogee Veterans, you really should remain quiet in criticisms and compliments.

God bless and be thankful for our Muscogee veterans, our tribe and our vote.

For more information on voting, please contact the MCN Election Board at (918) 732-7683.

Summit

Continued from A1

Nationally recognized speakers include Dr. Darryl Tonemah, a member of the Kiowa/Comanche/Tuscarora tribes, has worked in the field of health and wellness for over 20 years. He has given workshops and keynotes across the United States, Canada and Mexico. He has recently been named to the Board of Directors for the American Diabetes Association. He is a partner in the Native Health Group (NHG) with primary goal of decreasing health disparities among the Native American population and increase access to care.

Dr. Ponder, a member of the Mesjwaki (Sac &Fox Tribe of Mississippi), is a board certified pediatric endocrinologist, which includes the diagnosis and treatment of children with diabetes. Dr. Ponder is also a Certified Diabetes Educator and has become a popular speaker in the U.S. and in other countries. He speaks about the causes and treatment of childhood obesity. He serves as the Medical Director of the Texas Lions Camp for Children with Diabetes. Dr. Ponder believes that the best outcomes in diabetes come from persons that are well- educated about diabetes self-management and are motivated to improve their health.

For more information, please contact Duane Meadows, at (918) 695-1325 or Gloria Moore at (918) 756-3334 ext. 245.

Deadline for Absentee Ballot Request Forms set for Aug. 25

Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — Forty-nine Muscogee (Creek) citizens have filed for the offices of Principal Chief, Second Chief and Seat A on the National Council.

Muscogee (Creek) voters are now eligible to vote for every elected office within the nation. A recent amendment to the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution reads, "Each eligible voter of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be allowed to vote for each and every National Council Representative."

This will be the first election that voters can elect a candidate from outside their district. Prior to this constitutional change, voters could only elect candidates within their district.

"Now, voters are voting for everybody. It's at-large voting," explained Nettie Harjo, Election Board Manager.

According to the Muscogee (Creek) Election Board, the deadline to request an absentee ballot is Aug. 25, 2011 at 5 p.m. The Election Board notes that absentee ballot requests will not re-open for the general election.

The primary election is set for Sept. 17 with the general election Nov. 5. Absentee ballots will be mailed out to absentee voters on Aug. 29 for the primary and again on Oct. 17 for the general election.

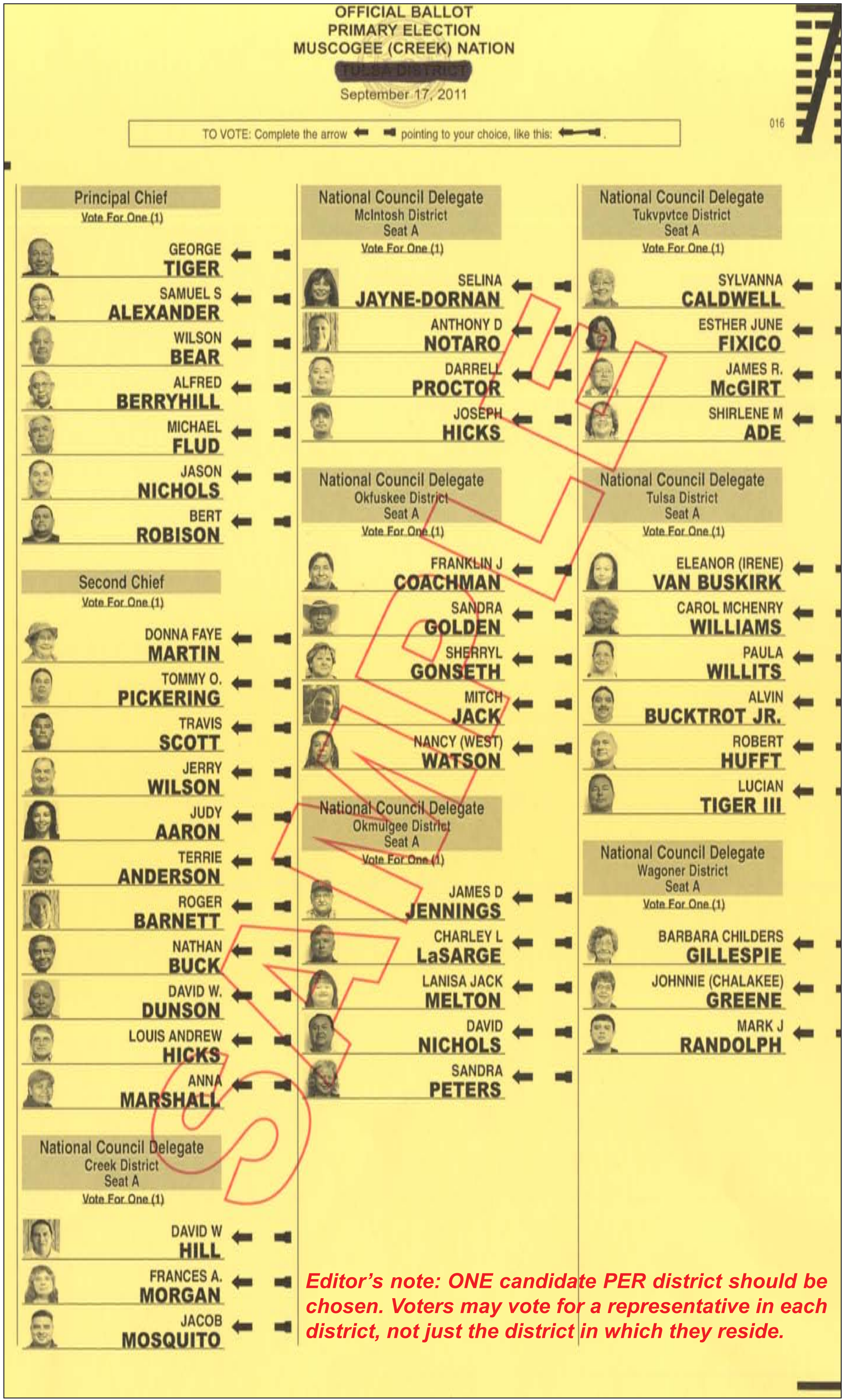
The Election Board encourages the elderly, citizens who work weekends and those who attend weekend activities to become an absentee voter.

The Election Board also encourages younger citizens, age 18-30, to get registered and vote.

Only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the Election Board will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections.

Pictured at the right is a sample ballot, on which, ONE candidate PER district should be chosen. Voters may vote for a representatives in each district, not just the district in which they reside.

For more information on registering to vote, contact the Election Board office at (918) 732-7684 or (918) 732-7685.



OFFICIAL BALLOT
PRIMARY ELECTION
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
[redacted]
September 17, 2011

016

TO VOTE: Complete the arrow ⬅ ▬ pointing to your choice, like this: ⬅━.

SAMPLE

Principal Chief
Vote For One (1)

GEORGE **TIGER**
SAMUEL S **ALEXANDER**
WILSON **BEAR**
ALFRED **BERRYHILL**
MICHAEL **FLUD**
JASON **NICHOLS**
BERT **ROBISON**

Second Chief
Vote For One (1)

DONNA FAYE **MARTIN**
TOMMY O. **PICKERING**
TRAVIS **SCOTT**
JERRY **WILSON**
JUDY **AARON**
TERRIE **ANDERSON**
ROGER **BARNETT**
NATHAN **BUCK**
DAVID W. **DUNSON**
LOUIS ANDREW **HICKS**
ANNA **MARSHALL**

National Council Delegate
Creek District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

DAVID W **HILL**
FRANCES A. **MORGAN**
JACOB **MOSQUITO**

National Council Delegate
McIntosh District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

SELINA **JAYNE-DORNAN**
ANTHONY D **NOTARO**
DARRELL **PROCTOR**
JOSEPH **HICKS**

National Council Delegate
Okfuskee District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

FRANKLIN J **COACHMAN**
SANDRA **GOLDEN**
SHERRYL **GONSETH**
MITCH **JACK**
NANCY (WEST) **WATSON**

National Council Delegate
Okmulgee District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

JAMES D **JENNINGS**
CHARLEY L **LaSARGE**
LANISA JACK **MELTON**
DAVID **NICHOLS**
SANDRA **PETERS**

National Council Delegate
Tukvpvtce District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

SYLVANNA **CALDWELL**
ESTHER JUNE **FIXICO**
JAMES R. **McGIRT**
SHIRLENE M **ADE**

National Council Delegate
Tulsa District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

ELEANOR (IRENE) **VAN BUSKIRK**
CAROL MCHENRY **WILLIAMS**
PAULA **WILLITS**
ALVIN **BUCKTROT JR.**
ROBERT **HUFFT**
LUCIAN **TIGER III**

National Council Delegate
Wagoner District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

BARBARA CHILDERS **GILLESPIE**
JOHNNIE (CHALAKEE) **GREENE**
MARK J **RANDOLPH**

Editor's note: ONE candidate PER district should be chosen. Voters may vote for a representative in each district, not just the district in which they reside.

Social Services Aug. Field Schedule

Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	2nd Thursday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	3rd Wednesday of month
Eufaula	Skating Rink 9:00 am – 11:00 am	3rd Tuesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	4th Thursday of month
Koweta	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	2nd Tuesday of month
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	2nd Wednesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	3rd Thursday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	2nd Wednesday of month
Wetumka	Food Distribution 9:00 am – 11:00 am	1st Thursday of month

College of the Muscogee Nation moves toward accredidation

Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation is in the process of becoming independently funded to operate. Within the next few years, the college may receive accreditation and can stand alone from its current partnerships and funding sources.

The College of the Muscogee Nation is currently sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and relies on a partnership with Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology. The partnership relies on financial aid; class enrollment, work-study opportunities and degree options are in conjunction with OSU-IT.

"Once we complete this next phase and we become a candidate for accreditation, we'll start receiving federal money," CMN President Robert Bible said.

Some funding for the college comes from appropriations by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Financial aid is only available through OSU-IT. Students must enroll at OSU-IT to be eligible to receive federal funding such as student loans, Pell grants, and work-study assistantships.

"People will say, 'Hey, I got on FAFSA and College of the Muscogee Nation not on there," Bible said. "I say 'No you have to go to OSU-IT and put their code in to get the money."

According to Bible, accreditation can occur as early as the spring of 2015, but applying can be a time consuming process.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

College of the Muscogee Nation President Robert Bible (forfront) and Dr. James King attended the CMCA gathering to inform citizens of the educational oppurtunities the CMN has provided, which will grow with accrediation in the near future.

"In the entire process there's like 10 steps. We just completed seven and we're getting ready to go to eight and nine," Bible said.

The college is applying for accreditation through the American Indian Higher Education Consortium. AIHEC can accredit tribal colleges. Of the four tribal colleges in the state, the College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is not the only one applying. Comanche Nation College, in Lawton, has applied too.

"We're about three to four months ahead of Mr. Bible," Dr. Consuelo Lopez, president of Comanche Nation College said.

With the process of being a fully accredited institution in the near future, the college is still serving the needs of students and handling day-to-day operations of a post secondary educational institution.

"The biggest challenge is keeping up with enrollment," Bible said.

This past spring, the college reached a milestone in its history with the total number of graduates just over 90.

Since the opening in 2006, the college now has four programs of study, a new building, more faculty and plans for student housing. Bible attributes much of the college's success to the tribe and staff.

"I've got a great staff," Bible said. "If you surround yourself with good people, good things happen."

For more information on the College of the Muscogee Nation, call (918) 549-2806.

School Clothing applications accepted through Oct. 7

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, is now accepting applications for school clothing.

Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of Oct. 7, 2011 at 5 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek citizen students, no matter where they live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program are as follows:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least three years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be four years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade.

All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application.

Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.

- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200. (Example: If you received $400 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350, you will be eligible to receive $200). Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

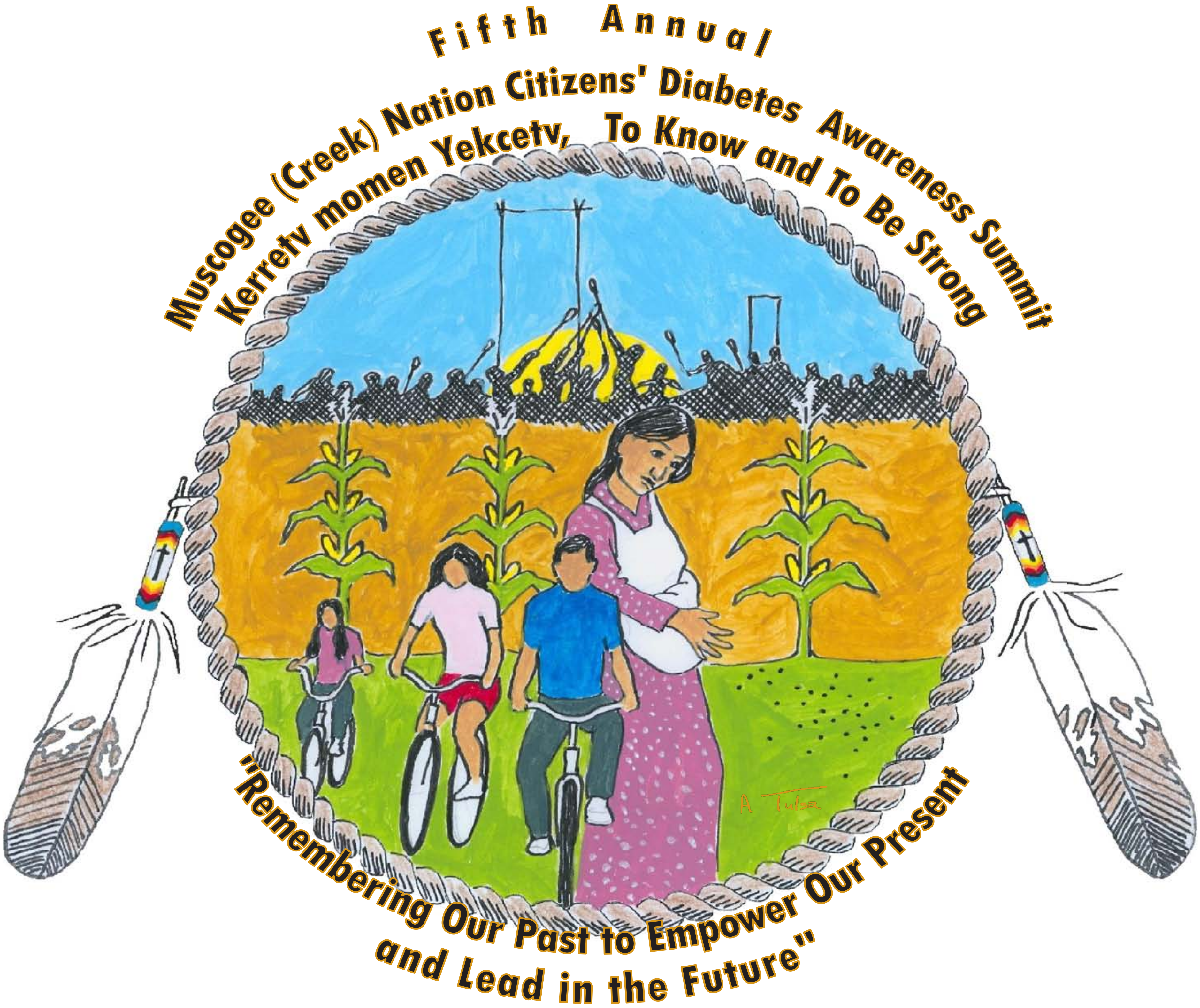
- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.
- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you

All applications must be returned or mailed to:

School Clothing Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.


Fifth Annual
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit
Kerretv momen Yekcetv, To Know and To Be Strong
"Remembering Our Past to Empower Our Present
and Lead in the Future"

Fifth Annual MCN Citizens' Diabetes Summit
August 26, 2011
First Christian Church in Sapulpa

The boys are back in town; Weleetka sees double

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

Photo courtesy/*Bencoma Family*

Pictured above are the Bencoma twins in 2004 when they brought home a Class B State Championship in football.

WELEETKA — The boys are back in town. Rodney and William Bencoma are returning to their alma mater of Weleetka High School where their success on the gridiron brought numerous fans to watch these two help win state championships in 2002, 2004 and runner-up in 2003. This time, they will be trading their purple and gold helmets for hats and passing their knowledge of the sport to the new Outlaws football team.

Under Head Coach Tony Hawkins, both Rodney and William will be assistant coaches on both sides of the ball with Rodney coaching offense, and William with defense. Both know that it will be a challenge to be able to return to the state championship, but are eager and ready to take that on.

They understand what they have to do to help this year's team to get ready for this season and also know that success does not happen over night.

"In a perfect world, winning the state championship happens and everything goes right, but this is not a perfect world," Rodney said. "We want to do things right and to do our best to get back to that high level and back to state."

They are not only using their role as coaches for football, but also for another great passion. Rodney and William feel that being where they are at puts them in great position to be able to be a mentor to not only the kids on the football team, but to the student body in school.

"It says in the Bible to go and make disciples and tell them about Jesus." Rodney said. "And being coaches, that is our platform to do that and to show them the love of Christ and what he has done."

There has been a great deal of excitement coming from the community about Rodney and William returning to their hometown of Weleetka, Okla. These two have created a buzz throughout the town and residents know when it comes to the Bencoma twins, they are a positive influence for their children.

Weleetka Public Schools Superintendent Dan Parish said having the twins working with the youth will be a positive addition to the community.

"We [the community] are real proud of these boys. I've known them since the day they were born. I can't be more pleased with helping them get a start, and now they are back home helping our kids."

So when Sept. 2, 2011 shows up, the town of Weleetka, along with fans from the surrounding communities will be in attendance to watch the Weleetka Outlaws and the Bencoma twins get back in the action and returning to the sport that made the two a household name.

MNN/*Darren DeLaune*

Pictured above are Rodney and William Bencoma in 2011 when they returned to Weleetka High School to head up Outlaw Football.

Spirit of Oklahoma camp a hit in Indian Country

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

WELEETKA — On a grueling hot day, with temperatures near 110 degrees, the first annual Spirit of Oklahoma Football Camp was held in Weleetka Outlaw Stadium. Over 100 kids between the ages of 6-16 came to learn the fundamentals of football from one of the greatest players that has ever put on an Oklahoma Sooners jersey, Jamelle Holieway.

Sooner fan know Holieway, the only true freshman quarterback in OU history to lead the Sooners to a National Championship in the Orange Bowl in 1985. But on this day, it was not about him but the kids who came to his camp wanting to learn how to become better football players.

"In this weather, in this kind of heat, it was amazing that these kids were able to focus and to soak up all of the things that we were talking to them about. All of us had drills, exercises, fundamentals, and speeches that we had given to them," Holieway said. "To be able to learn and concentrate on the task at hand, in this heat no less, shows me the desire that these kids have in helping themselves to be better players."

Holieway chose a rural area, such as Weleetka, because he knows there are kids who may not be able to make it to football camps in Norman, Oklahoma City and Tulsa. He organized a group of former players and coaches that love working with kids, and who would be able to offer the same experience camps in bigger cities can.

Among the former players who helped him were Leshon Johnson, who played running back for the Haymakers in Haskell, Okla., went to Northern Illinois, and then had a successful career in the NFL. Richard Molten from McAlester, Okla., played safety at East Carolina. The entire Weleetka football coaching staff also helped out with the camp.

"If I can grab one kid and keep them from veering off into the wrong track of life and help them stay out of trouble then I consider my camp a great success," said Holieway. "The rural areas do not get a lot of exposure, so if I can help in any way bring some type of exposure, for example with this football camp, I consider that another great success. Someone gave me an opportunity to learn how to be a successful player at a young age and to learn my craft, and I want to be able to give back, put God first, and do things right. To be able to teach these kids I feel like I'm returning that favor."

With the success of this year's football camp, Holieway said that he will be returning next year to do it all over again. He wants to return to another rural area within Muscogee (Creek) Nation and conduct a one-day camp so hopefully more schools can be involved.

For more infromation on the camp, contact Sandi Golden at (405) 786-2635.

SECTION B

FEATURES

August 15, 2011 edition

Youth test limits at Grand Canyon

• MCN 4-H Program sponsors successful youth camp

MCN/*Rick Clovis*

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H Program traveled to the Grand Canyon in Durango, Colo., for a youth camp this past summer in July where participants hiked 12 miles, round-trip, to Plateau Point.

Media Release
MCN 4-H Program

DURANGO, Colo., — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H Program sponsored a camping trip to the Grand Canyon in Durango, Colo., July 17-23. There were a total of 44 youth and 12 adults on the trip. The group left from Okmulgee early July 17 and arrived at the Grand Canyon at noon July 18. After setting up camp, the group visited the south rim of the Grand Canyon.

On July 19 the group hiked the Bright Angel trail of the Grand Canyon with 20 making it to Plateau Point, which is a 12-mile round trip with 3,500 ft., of elevation change. The south rim is 7,000 ft., above sea level, while Plateau Point is at 3,500 ft. Plateau Point is on the inner gorge of the Grand Canyon and overlooks the Colorado River 1,000 ft., below.

In the months before the trip, youth were challenged to prepare themselves physically and mentally and to set goals for themselves while on the trip. Leading up to the trip, the youth received instruction on nutrition, proper hydration, physical fitness, camp cooking and camp set up. All meals were prepared by the group while in camp.

Temperatures at the Canyon during the day ranged from 85 degrees on the rim to 100 at Plateau Point. At night, temperatures were in the high forties on the rim where the group camped. The forth day the group traveled to Durango, Colo., with a stop at the Four Corners area.

The first day in Durango the group took jeeps to Silverton, with a stop at Clear Lake. The second day in Durango was filled with guided white water rafting on the Animas River.

For more information, please call (918)732-7700

Glenpool Indian Community to elect officers Oct. 11

Media Release
Glenpool Creek Indian Community

GLENPOOL — The election of Glenpool Indian Community officers is set for Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011 from 6:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m., at the Glenpool Indian Community Center.

If a member wishes to become a candidate for office, they must complete a Declaration of Candidacy Form and a Background Check Release Form by Aug. 26, 2011 with the Glenpool Creek Indian Community.

Any Creek citizen living within the juridictional boundaries of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community who would like to become a member of the community and vote in the upcoming election must apply for membership before Sept. 30, 2011.

For more information please contact Dianna Billie at (918) 691-6006.

Bristow Indian Community to elect officers Sept. 3

Media Release
MCN Community Development

BRISTOW — The Bristow Indian Community Election will be held Sept. 3, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Bristow Indian Community Center, located at 710 S. Main in Bristow. The deadline for filing for candidacy will be Aug. 12, 2011.

Current candidates are: Charley Simmers – Chairman, Jason Bigpond - Chairman, JoAnna Wacoche – Chairman, Mitchell Fischer – Vice Chairman, Jason Bigpond – Vice Chairman, JoAnna Wacoche – Vice Chairman, Ceilla Sexton – Vice Chairman, Rachel Little – Secretary/Treasurer

The deadline for applying for membership or updating membership information is Aug. 24, 2011. Membership applications may be picked up at the BIC Smoke Shop and faxed to CR&D at (918) 732-7971.

After the election, MCN Community Research & Development, along with MCN departments and agencies will provide a series of workshops for the new officers. The pending date for Proclamation Release will be Sept. 20, 2011.

For more information, contact MCN Community Research and Development at (918) 732-7963.

B2 CULTURAL

And Still the Waters Run: *California Adventure*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MCN Candidate Forums

B4 GRADUATION

Shaylend K Chalakee

B5 GRADUATION

Matthew Davis

B6 GRADUATION

Lee Allen Longhorn

And Still the Waters Run: *California Adventure*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

ANAHEIM, Calif., — It was about 6 p.m., on the evening of Saturday, August 6, 2011 two hours after our California gathering had closed. I was making yet another trip to my Dodge Dakota truck, packing the final elements of my family history display. I realized I could not make another trip, even to the church kitchen to say goodnight to three volunteers (including Anne Marshall of Holdenville), who were still finishing up. I managed to lift my tired legs into my truck and headed home (I made appropriate phone calls).

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*
Crowds filled tables at the annual California Muscogee (Creek) Association Gathering held Aug. 6, 2011 at the local Native American United Methodist Church in Anaheim.

When you wait impatiently for an event, like the annual gathering, one tends to forget age is the great equalizer; that just maybe the Bible was “inspired” when it speaks of three score and ten. I prepared for a week prior to the event, trips to the Smart and Final, washing my truck, carefully packing the same, sending dozens of last minute emails, praying for good weather and safe travel for our guests and our citizens.

I was not disappointed. The weather was perfect, the crowd huge, the guests were anxious to share their skills with us, in language, citizenship, communication, and all the various offices represented. Those who came privately, because they’re running for office in this election year, were enlightening, quick to help in tearing down the tables and chairs so we could begin cleaning our rented facility. I saw humility in many of them, a trait which my grandfather taught me was so important in Creek culture. I was greeted by countless old friends.

Many of us hugged the stricken Johnson family, who had lost their patriarch, Cecil Johnson, the day before. A large collection was taken to assist them as they traveled to Okla., to lay a wonderful elderly Creek man to rest. He lived for decades in Calif., amongst us, before going back to his enrollment lands to end his days.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the Native American Methodist Church of Anaheim, which rented their fellowship hall to us. Several of their members (not just Creeks) came to help us during our five-hour gathering. I found the pastor, on his knees, cleaning floors two hours after the event. He was so thrilled the following morning, when Creeks remaining in the area attended his worship service and more than doubled his small congregation, and sang songs of praise.

I arranged a small family history exhibit. Many people came by to look at my old Creek photos and read copies of stories I submit monthly for the *Muscogee Nation News*. At times, folks were lined up to speak with me. I was, as my children said, “in my element.” And speaking of children, four of my five (one son lives in Santa Fe), came to the gathering, bringing my grandkids and attending a language class. My twin brother and wife came as well, and many of my nephews and nieces. My extended family, the Freemans and Thomas’s were also seen. California Muscogee (Creek) Association is not political - it was created in hopes of keeping our culture,

to inform our citizens what MCN services are available, to link the California and Oklahoma Creek communities together. It does just that.

Thanks everyone for coming out and for bringing so much food. We were able to leave many special treats for the kids of Hope University, a school for emotionally challenged children which meets at the church on week days. We also left paper supplies to the church itself.

Special thanks to Eli Grayson, President of the CMCA who put this together, for Chief Ellis for taking time out of his busy schedule to attend, for our editor, Becca Landsberry, who recognizes the links found between our two communities, and is an advocate for our shared goals.

Mvto! Myto!

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

Claims Filing Assistance
in the $760 million Keepseagle Indian Farmer/Rancher Settlement

DATE: August 16-18, 2011
TIME: Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Bacone College
Lucy Peters Hall
2299 Old Bacone Road
Muskogee, OK

DATE: August 16-18, 2011
TIME: Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Seneca-Cayuga
Tribe of Oklahoma
R2301 E Steve Owens Blvd.
Miami, OK

What is this About?
The class action settles claims that the USDA discriminated against Native American farmers and ranchers seeking farm loans or loan servicing.

Who is Included?
The Settlement includes:
- Native American farmers who:
  - Farmed or ranched (or attempted to) any time from 1981 to late 1999.
  - Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA.
  - Complained about discrimination to the USDA either directly or through a representative.
- Heirs of the above.

How Much Money Can I Get?
You may be eligible for a payment of up to $50,000 or more and full or partial loan forgiveness.

To receive a payment,
you must file a claim by December 27, 2011
To get help in filing a claim,
attend a meeting or call: 1-888-233-5506
or visit: www.IndianFarmClass.com

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Reintegration Coat Drive

HENREYETTA — The MCN Reintegration program is now accepting donations for the first annual coat drive. They are accepting gently new and used coats for men, women and children. Donations can be dropped of at the Reintegration Program located in Henryetta.

For more information, please contact Becky Billingsly at (800) 259-1059 or at (918) 652-2676.

Marshall Family Reunion

WETUMKA — The 23rd Lewis and Mary Marshall Reunion is set for Sept. 3, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church in Wetumka, Okla.

Families are asked to bring potato salad, baked beans or drinks and two adult gifts. Dessert and ice will be provided by the committee. Games will be available for all ages.

For more information, please call (918) 623-7356 or (405) 452-3248.

Chalakee-Berryhill Reunion

OKMULGEE — The annual Chalekee-Berryhill reunion will be held Sept. 2-4 at the Springtown United Methodist Church, east of Broken Arrow.

On Friday, Sept. 2, there will be a weinee roast and singing. Saturday evening is an auction and Sunday, there will be morning services, a catered lunch and activities for all ages. A talent show is scheduled for Sunday evening.

For more information, please call (918) 279-0869.

TCIC Business Board to elect officers Sept. 2011

TULSA — An election for the TCIC Business Board is scheduled for Sept. 2011.

The TCIC Business Board is responsible for the management and supervision of all business enterprises of the community and shall report directly to TCIC including oversight of the financial operations of the community. The board consists of five (5) officers elected in accordance with Art. Vll, TCIC Constitution.

For more information, please contact TCIC at (918) 298-2464.

Okmulgee County Community Baby Shower

OKMULGEE — The first annual Okmulgee County Community Baby Shower will be held Oct. 4, 2011 at the Green Country Technology Center. The shower will be held for expecting mothers and mothers of babies six months and younger. Applications will be placed at various agencies throughout the county beginning Aug. 29, 2011. The application deadline is Sept. 15.

For more information about the shower please contact Tressia at (918) 756-1883, Cindy at (918) 756-7700, or April at (918) 728-1912.

Haikey Chapel to host Indian Taco Sale Sept. 10

TULSA — Haikey Chapel UMC will be having an Indian Taco Sale Sept. 10, 2011 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Cost of the taco will be $7 and includes a drink. The church is located at 8815 E 101st St., in Tulsa. Proceeds will benefit the Oklahoma Indian Methodist Conference Endowment Fund.

For more information, please contact Royce Wittman at (918) 284-7003.

MCIC now accepting applications for Smoke Shop Manager

MUSKOGEE — The Muscogee Creek Indian Community is now accepting applications for a Smoke Shop Manager to perform managerial and professional administrative duties related to the operation of the Muscogee Indian Community Smoke Shop.

Job Specifications include: three years' experience in a similar business, Bachelor's or Associates Degree in Business, valid Oklahoma Driver's license, drug test, background check, special consideration for Indian preference.

Applications may be picked up at the Muscogee Indian Community Smoke Shop located at 3400 W Peak Blvd., in Muskogee.

Submit application and resume to: Muscogee Indian Community Executive Board, P.O. Box 364, Muskogee, OK 7440.

For more information, please contact Sue or Georgia at (918) 682-6912.

2011 Youth Explosion Christian Youth Concert

OKMULGEE — The 2011 Youth Explosion Christian Youth Concert will be held at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Claude Cox Omniplex Sept. 10, 2011 beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The 2011-2012 Muscogee (creek) Nation royalty will be in attendance along with bands such as Consumed Worship Ministry, New Child, Champions for Christ, Team Swoosh, Geebon Gouge and S.O.G. Crew from Calif.

Admission is $5 at the gate. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Robert Lay at (918) 652 - 5340.

2011 MCN Candidate Forums

KOWETA — Koweta Indian Community will host a candidate forum from 6-9 p.m., Monday, Aug. 22 for MCN National Council Candidates only.

EUFAULA — Eufaula Indian Community will host a candidate forum from 6-9 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 25 at the local community center for all candidates.

DEWAR — Dewar Indian Community will host a candidate forum from 6-9 p.m., Friday, Aug. 26 at the local community center for Second Chief candidates.

MUSKOGEE — Muskogee Indian Community will host a candidate forum from 6-9 p.m., Friday, Aug. 26 at the local community center for Principal Chief candidates.

TWIN HILLS — Twin Hills Indian Community will host a candidate forum Saturday, Aug. 27 at the local community center.

Session 1 will be held from 2-4 p.m., for Principal Chief, Okmulgee and McIntosh candidates.

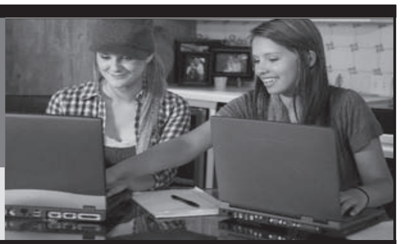
Session 2 will be held from 6-8 p.m., for Second Chief, Tulsa, Tukvpvtce and Wagoner candidates.

MUSKOGEE — Muskogee Indian Community will host a candidate forum from 6-9 p.m., Monday, Aug. 29 at the local community center for National Council candidates.

WETUMKA — Wetumka Indian Community will host a candidate forum beginning at 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 3 for National Council candidates.

A forum for Principal Chief and Second Chief candidates is set for Saturday, Sept. 10 beginning at 10 a.m., at at the local community center.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.



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2011 GRADUATES

Joshua Bailey

School: Oklahoma State University
Parents: Carrie and Nathan Bailey

Shannon L. Barnett

School: Tahlequah Sequoyah High School
Parents: Daniel and Kay Barnett
Grandparents: Dicey and Edward Barnett; Margaret and the late Artusse Fields
Church: Solid Rock Baptist Church
Clan: Bird

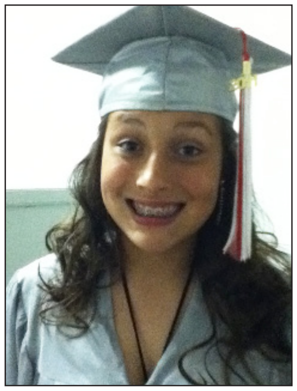
Dakota Cody Berryhill

School: Sequoyah High School
Parents: Charlotte Berryhill
Church: Sequoyah Chapel
Clan: Wind

Dayne Allen Billie

School: Ahfachkee Elementary School
Parents: Allen and Mary Billie
Grandparents: Lon Bear and the late Susanna Deeringwater Bear and Thomas and Jane Billie
Great-grandparents: the late Henry and Louise Deeringwater; Alice Billie and Francis Osceola
Clan: Wind

Bailey Campbell



School: Stidham Grade School
Parents: Christina McIntosh
Grandparents: Abe and Marilyn McIntosh
Clan: Tiger

Shaylend K. Chalakee

School: Pendleton High School
Parents: Carman Chalakee and Dennis Juneau
Grandparents: Bunky Chalakee, Barbara Guerrero, the late Chiquita (Maggie) McNac and Royce Juneau
Great-grandparents: the late Webster and Martha Chalakee; the late Uriah (Red) and Anita Alexander
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Clan: Deer

Cheston Samuel Chotkey

Parents: Tonia Chotkey and Dwane Hill
Grandparents: Winfred and Louisa Chotkey
Great-grandparents: the late Mae Chotkey Deer and thel ate Hellen Jimboy
Ceremonial Ground: Peach Ground

Cody Dane Coachman

School: Wetumka High School
Parents: Tina McKinney and Warren Coachman
Grandparents: Lynda and Ollen Waldroop; Willa (Herrod) Coachman, Joe Washington and the late Guy Coachman
Great-grandparents:Pauline (Canard) McKinney
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Church: Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church
Clan: Raccoon

2011 GRADUATES

Brandi Coleman

School: Checotah High School
Parents: Brent and Denise Coleman
Grandparents: Sue Henson and the late David Henson;
Doyle and Nona Coleman
Great-grandparents: the late Vernn and Naggie Bear Wilbanks
Clan: Turtle

Matthew Davis

School: Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
Parents: Ken and Filena Davis
Major: Mathmatics and Philosophy
Affiliations: 2nd Lt. in the United States Air Force

Patricia Winnie Deere

School: Kiefer High School
Parents: Suzette Ann and Jimmy Andrew Deere
Ceremonial Ground: Greenleaf
Church: Little Cussetah Baptist Church
Clan: Panther

Timothy Wayne Jon Paul Fish

School: University of Wisconsin-Madison
Parents: Pete Fish, Sr., and Cynthia Bel
Tribal Town: Kialegee
Clan: Raccoon

Lora Ann Gandy

School: Coweta High School
Parents: Dan and Robin Gandy
Church: First United Methodist Church of Broken Arrow
Clan: Bird

Victoria Elizabeth Grant

School: Louisiana State University
Parents: Patrick G. Grant

Katie Burden-Greer

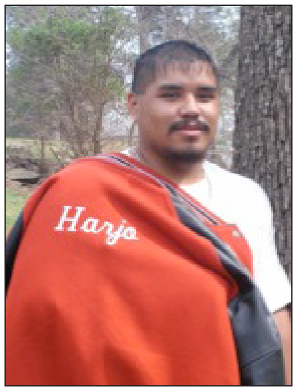
School: Univeristy of Oklahoma College of Medicine
Parents: Steve and Joyce Burden
Grandparents: Jerry and Dee Wall; the late Bill and Mildren Burden
Tribal Town: Hitchitee
Clan: Wind

Marissa Harjo

School: Okmulgee High School
Parents: Scotty and Mary Harjo
Grandparents: the late Juanita and Ina Artusee
Ceremonial Ground: Arbeka
Clan: Tiger

2011 GRADUATES

Rayne Webster Harjo



School: Okmulgee High School
Parents: Sharon Chalakee and Ray Harjo
Grandparents: the late Webster and Martha (Bird) Chalakee; the late Henry and Christine (Berryhill) Harjo
Tribal Town: Thloplocco
Clan: Tiger

Alecia Ann Heath

School: Northwester Oklahoma State University
Parents: Corey and Stacey Faires
Grandparents: Johnny and Betty Northcutt; Karen Faires
Tribal Town: Tuskegee
Clan: Bear

Iena Joy Harjo

School: Okmulgee High School
Parents: Sharon Chalakee and Ray Harjo
Grandparents: the late Webster and Martha (Bird) Chalakee; the late Henry and Christine (Berryhill) Harjo
Tribal Town: Thloplocco
Clan: Tiger

Christian Michael Hill

School: Okmulgee High School
Parents: Christopher and Amy Hill
Tribal Town: Weogufkee
Clan: Bear

Jonas Edmon Hogshooter

School: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Headstart
Parents: Melanie Artusee and Jamaal Hogshooter
Ceremonial Ground: Arbeka
Clan: Okpyapci

Lee Allen Longhorn

School: University of Oklahoma
Parents: Patricia and Alvin Bucktrot
Grandparents: Clarabell Emarthla McClelland: Wayne and the late Lucille (Blanchard) Longhorn; Liza Harjo
Ceremonial Ground: Hickory Ground
Clan: Deer

Jennifer Rae Maxey

School: Preston High School
Parents: Bill and Kathy McCormack; Jim Maxey
Grandparents: Harvey and Carolyn (Cox) Torix
Tribal Town: Hitchitee
Clan: Raccoon

Hannah Murphy

School: Kellyville High School
Parents: Harold and Nancy Murphy
Church: First Baptist Church of Kellyville
Clan: Bear

2011 GRADUATES

Reagan Ellyce Osborn

School: Wetumka High School
Parents: Jeff and Thomasene Yahola Osborn
Grandparents: Thomas Yahola and "Pinky" Yahola; Obie Osborn

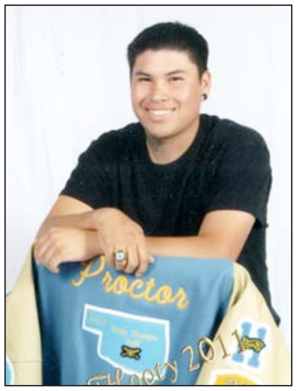
Trent Pembrook

School: University of Oklahoma
Parents: Albert and Tammy Pembrook
Grandparents: Art and Fern Kerr; Orvin and Elresa Pembrook
Great-grandparents: Dennis M and Anna Kerr
Clan: Wind

Ashley Perryman

School: Western Oregon University
Parents: Armon Perryman
Godparent: Michele Perryman

Cameron Wayne Proctor

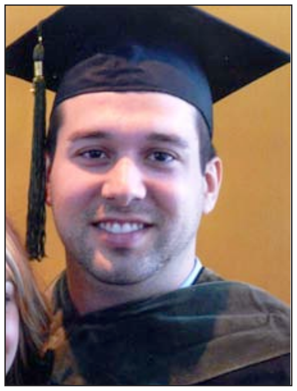


School: Oktaha High School
Parents: Terry and Jo Ann (Harrison) Proctor
Ceremonial Ground: New Tulsa
Clan: Beaver

Cer Harley Scott

School: Haskell Indian Nations University
Parents: Curtis Scott and Carol Harley
Gramdparents: Linda Berryhill and the late Alfred Harley; the late Rev. Mose Scott and Elouise Scott
Church: Salt Creek
Clan: Tiger

Jeffrey Standsberry



School: University of Nebraska Medical Center
Parents: Russell and Cindy Standsberry
Grandparents: Patty Walker Link
Great-grandparents: the late George Washington Walker

Matthew Alan Standsberry

School: Bancroft Rosalie High School
Parents: Russell and Cindy Standsberry
Grandparents: Patty Walker Link
Great-grandparents: the late George Washington Walker

Tyler Christian Tiger

School: Siloam Springs High School
Parents: Eric and Lisa Tiger
Grandparents: the late Jackson and Dorcas Tiger

2011 GRADUATES

Samuel Welch Trickey

School: Eastern Washington State University
Parents: Max B. and Susan C. Trickey
Grandparents: Charles and Elizabeth Trickey
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Clan: Bird

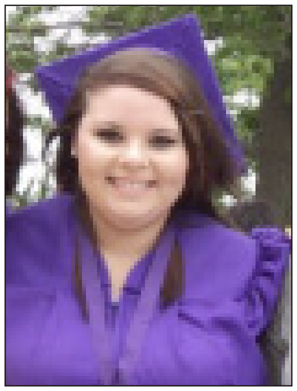
Edward Augustine Valdez

School: Dr. Ralph H. Poteet High School
Parents: Stephanie Frank
Grandparents: Austin and JoAnn Frank
Church: Lakepoint Church

Amanda Watashe

School: Glenpool High School
Parents: Reae and Sgt. Daryl King
Grandparents: Sandra and Larry King; the late Charlene Cosar Watashe
Great-grandparents: the late Amanda Randall Cosar and Charlie Cosar

Helen Welch



School: Haskell Indian Nations University
Parents: Lorrie and Dean Welch
Ceremonial Ground: Alabama
Clan: Wind

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES AIR FORCE VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
Thursday, 15 September 2011

**To Celebrate The Birth Month
Of The United States Air Force
(18 September 1947)**

- Showtime - 1900 Hrs. - Thursday, 15 September 2011
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **IRON EAGLE, with Louis Gossett Jr., Jason Gedrick & Tim Thomerson**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Muscogee Air Force Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Delana Hicks at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7744

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Sept. 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 13

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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MCN Primary Election nears

• Absentee ballots due by 11 a.m., Sept. 17

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation absentee voters will be mailing thier completed ballots to the Election Board over the next few weeks. Ballots must reach the Election Board via post no later than 11 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011 in order to be counted for the Primary Election.

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Forty-nine Muscogee (Creek) citizens have filed for the offices of Principal Chief, Second Chief and Seat A on the National Council.

Muscogee (Creek) voters are now eligible to vote for every elected office within the nation. A recent amendment to the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution reads, "Each eligible voter of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be allowed to vote for each and every National Council Representative."

This will be the first election that voters can elect a candidate from outside their district. Prior to this constitutional change, voters could only elect candidates within their district.

The primary election is set for Sept. 17, 2011 with the general election Nov. 5, 2011.

Absentee ballots were mailed to absentee voters Aug. 29 for the primary election and again on Oct. 17 for the general election.

SEE ABSENTEE - A5

Principal Chief candidate forum to be televised in Sept.

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Public Relations has created a TV spot featuring all seven Principal Chief candidates that will air in Okla., on Cox channels 3 and 703. Each candidate will introduce themselves to citizens living within the state.

The spot will air at the following times: (Tulsa) Wednesday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 11, 9 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 13, 8:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m., (Oklahoma City) Wednesday, Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 11, 9:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 13, 8:30 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 14, 9 p.m.

Okemah Hospital corrects deficiencies, retains Medicaid funding

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — A survey team from the State Department of Health's Medical Facilities division issued a bad report card for the Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah this spring. During an unannounced recertification survey on May 23 and 24, the hospital was found noncompliant with the Medicare Conditions of Participation for Critical Access Hospitals (CAH). Generally included were a number of problems in the areas of: Organizational Structure, Surgical Services, and Periodic Evaluation and Quality Assurance Review. State health officials then placed the Okemah facility on what they called a "termination track."

The MCN Okemah Hospital is a small facility that is showing its age. Built in 1948, its serves as the only hospital in an estimated 70-plus mile radius. It serves the entire area and a busy highway traffic corridor as well as the local Muscogee population. Those six decades and its use has made the physical plant deteriorate.

SEE OKEMAH - A7

A2 LEGAL

Letter to the Editor

A3 LEGAL

Letter from the Editor

A4 CAPITOL NEWS

MCN veterans urged to particpate in upcoming election

VETERANS SCOOP

A6 COMMUNITY

2011 MCN voter precinct information

A8 HEALTH

WIC Spotlight: Krista and Victor Pedraza

Muscogee Nation News
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Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letter to the editor

Citizen thanks volunteers for service during MCN Festival

OKMULGEE — On behalf of Simon Harry, Micco of Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground, he and his family would like to express their sincerest gratitude for the honor bestowed upon him during the 37th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Stomp Dance.

A special thank you extended to David Proctor, Micco of Tallahassee (Wvkokiye) Ceremonial Ground and Coordinator of the Festival Stomp Dance, for his recognition of Simon as the oldest Micco of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Ceremonial Grounds. The beautiful Pendleton blanket received by Harry will always be memorable for him.

The traditions of the ceremonial ground are a vital part of Simon's life as well as those around him. Simon and his family are very proud of Proctor, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. and all those involved in keeping the "fire" alive today and for years to come. Mvto,

Simon and Nancy Harry

MNN correction from Aug. 1, 2011 edition:

OKMULGEE — The Aug. 1 edition of the MNN named Franklin Coachman as the son of Joe "Kammy" Coachman. It should have read "…Hammy Coachman."

We apologize for the mistake.

- MNN Staff

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from May 1, 2011 through May 30, 2011 are as follows:

Divorce:

Joshua Birdcreek v. Stephanie Birdcreek	Divorce
Robert Solomon v. Leah Solomon	Divorce
Susan Denton v. Joseph Denton	Divorce
Deanna Gutierrez v. Vincent Gutierrez	Divorce
Marcia Cozart v. Galen Cozart	Divorce
Ashlee Clark v. Antray Clark	Divorce
Megan Ratliff v. West Ratliff	Divorce
Beatrice Clark v. Terrance Clark Jr.	Divorce
Maxine McHenry v. Danny McHenry	Divorce
Sandra Meister v. James Meister	Divorce
Sharmaine Vasquez v. Manuel Vasquez	Divorce
April Brocato v. Anthony Brocato	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Nancy Park v. Mark Park	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Sheila Santos v. Victor Flores	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Keysha Brewer v. Jeremy Berryhill	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Misty Rogers v. Otis Dunn	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Lashonda Joseph v. Jeffrey Adams	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Candy Sadler v. Matthew Scott	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Rhiana Ford v. Kenneth Hall	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Etta Checotah v. Pamela Checotah	Ex-Parte
Rikki Bates v. Kevin Bates	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Jack No Ear	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Jennifer Fools	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Susan Sheppard	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
MCN v. Frank Stephens	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
MCN v. Edmond Warrington	Ct. 1: Bribery
MCN v. Dana Johnson	Ct. 1: Bribery
	Ct. 2: Bribery
	Ct. 3: Bribery
MCN v. Gene Lee	Ct. 1: Bribery
Ct. 2: Bribery	
Ct. 3: Bribery	
MCN v. Brian McElroy	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

Traffic:

MCN v. Gerald Ogans	Failure to Yield Right of Way
MCN v. Samuel Little	No Insurance
MCN v. Samuel Little	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jon Hockenson	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Samantha Beummet	Expired Tag
MCN v. Shawn Huston	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Sherri Villines	No Insurance
MCN v. Geogia Walker	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Sarah Mills	Public Intoxication
MCN v. Sarah Mills	Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage
MCN v. Robert Cribb	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Joshua Rogers	No Insurance
MCN v. Terry Arnove	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Karen Toliver	DUS
MCN v. Mitchell Kendall	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Nathan Givens	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Kathryn Moran	Disorderly Conduct

Marriage Licenses:

Amber Bruner v. Dillan Parker	Marriage License

The District Court filings from June 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Monica Martin	Name Change
AHS Tulsa Regional Medical Center LLC., Oklahoma State University Medical Center v. Brian Smith	Foreign Judgment

2011 MCN District Court filings (con't.)

Rita West v. Jason Tiger	Petition
Marian Berryhill v. Daniell Cozad	Petition
Liberty Finance v. Diana Beasley	Small Claims
Tasha Duff v. Aaron Standridge	Petition
Midwestern Loans v. LaDonna Burns	Small Claims
Morris Finance v. Nathaniel Barnoskie	Foreign Judgment
Credit Acceptance Corp., v. Stephanie Mosquito	Foreign Judgment
Southcrest Hospital v. Linda Caywood	Foreign Judgment
Unifund CCR Partners v. Virgie Clements	Foreign Judgment
Mallory Bible v. Michael Dunson	Petition
Tracie Powell v. James Gourd	Petition
Lindsey Waquie v. Brent Roberts	Petition
Western Shamrock v. Lisa Lambert	Small Claims

Divorce:

Lisa Begay v. Cecil Begay	Divorce
Robert Ware v. Martha Ware	Divorce
Jennifer Kupiec v. Chad Kupiec	Divorce
Michelle Ashley v. Michael Ashley	Divorce
Joe Summers v. Angela Taylor	Divorce
Terilynn Jackson v. Lawrence Jackson Jr.	Divorce
Terry O'Shields v. Mary O'Shields	Divorce
Randell Summers v. Kimberly Summers	Divorce
Heather Pierce v. Jason Pierce	Divorce
Stephanie Friend v. Calvin Friend	Divorce
Randolph Smith v. Laverne Smith	Divorce
Carolyn McClendon v. Tommy McClendon	Divorce
Warren Owens Jr., v. Gayla Owens	Divorce

Family Domestic:

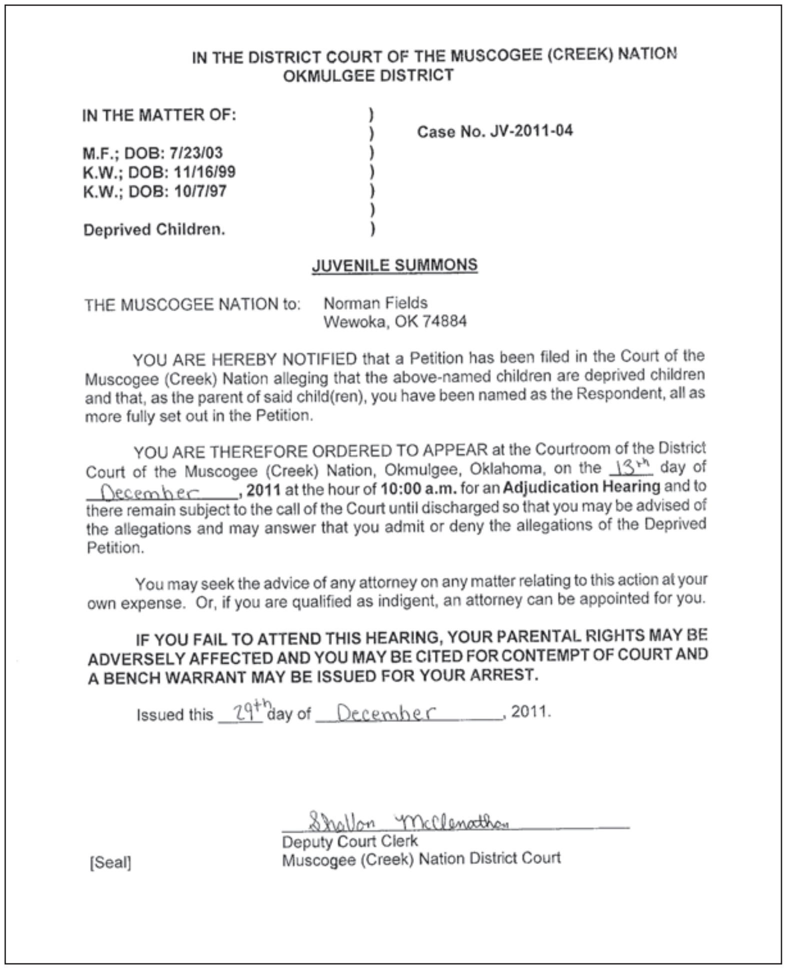
OCSE, ex rel., Kristin Montgomery v. Randy Summers	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Allison Berryhill v. Ray Jimboy	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Tracie Powell v. James Gourd	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Edwin Deere v. Allison Hill	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Nedra Thompson v. Brandon John	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., LaDonna Brown v. Chris Cochran	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Angelia Harjo v. Christopher Cloud	Ex-Parte
Heather Tecumseh v. Sara Townsely	Ex-Parte
Aaron Jones v. Sara Townsley	Ex-Parte
Dierdra Soap v. Kevin Soap	Ex-Parte
Betty Morgan, on behalf of Rosetta Morgan v. Tracy & Bud Morgan	Ex-Parte
Chasity Counterman v. Patricia Frye	Ex-Parte

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Russell Jacobs	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Lester Chandler	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. James Hayes Jr.	Ct. 1: Stalking



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	Case No. JV-2011-04
M.F.; DOB: 7/23/03	)	
K.W.; DOB: 11/16/99	)	
K.W.; DOB: 10/7/97	)	
	)	
Deprived Children.	)	

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Norman Fields
Wewoka, OK 74884

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named children are deprived children and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 13th day of December, **2011** at the hour of **10:00 a.m.** for an **Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

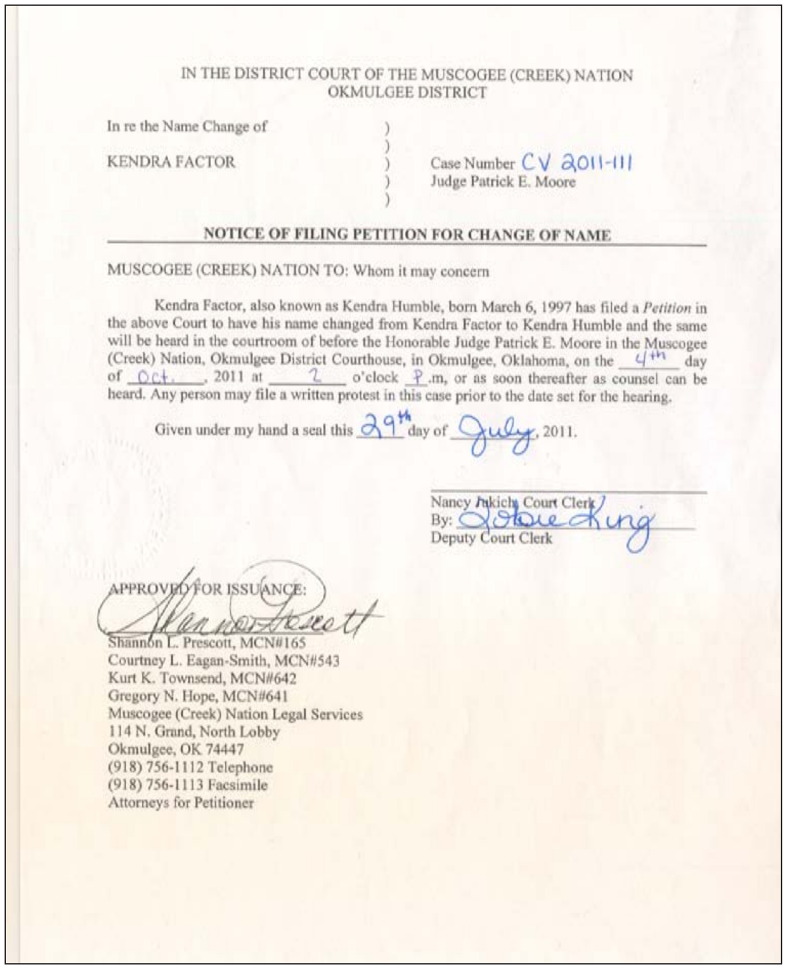
You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 29th day of December, 2011.

Shallon McClenathon
Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

[Seal]



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Name Change of	)	
	)	
KENDRA FACTOR	)	Case Number CV 2011-111
	)	Judge Patrick E. Moore
	)	

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Kendra Factor, also known as Kendra Humble, born March 6, 1997 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Kendra Factor to Kendra Humble and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 4th day of Oct., 2011 at 2 o'clock P.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 29th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich Court Clerk
By:
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — As I write to my fellow Mvskokes this morning, there are voters filling out their absentee ballots armed with information and of course, their 'no. 2' pencils.

Just a reminder, that each voter in the household must include a signature on the outside of his or her envelope or their vote will NOT count.

Here's something to remember: vote for ONE candidate per district, include ONE ballot, and sign ONE envelope per PERSON.

Whether or not you want to tell your grandma whom you voted for after that is completely up to you.

Labor Day weekend is always a big family event where I'm from. Relatives from all over the state come down to enjoy the festivities and there is something for everyone. Our small town hosts the Living Legends Rodeo, a free fireworks display, carnival and of course, the annual Henryetta Labor Day Parade.

Little Miss Labor Day, politicians, marching bands and local unions make sure the kids bag sacks of candy to last them until Halloween, however, at the conclusion, avoiding the piles of manure left by the livestock on Main St., is sometimes a challenge.

Be careful and watch where you step.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7720 or email me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop:
motorcylces and marching

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

Motorcycle ride set for Friday, Oct. 14

OKMULGEE — VASO will be hosting a Muscogee veteran motorcycle ride on Friday, Oct. 14, 2011 at 5 p.m.

We will assemble at 1500 at the Veterans Building. From the Veterans Building, in formation we will be traveling to the 5 and Diner restaurant in Tulsa.

After dinner, we will then travel to the Admiral Twin Drive-In theater for a movie. Muscogee Veteran motorcycle riders are allowed to bring one guest but the guest must ride with the veteran.

VASO will pay for the dinner and the movie. Please call Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739 to confirm your participation.

Pass-in-Review set for Nov. 10, 2011

OKMULGEE — This year in celebration of Veteran's Day, we will conduct a Pass-in-Review march as is the same with the United States of America Nov. 10, 2011.

The newly-elected and outgoing President is granted the honor of having the United States military Pass-in-Review. We are no different.

The purpose of a Pass-in-Review is to honor the elected civilian leadership and to confirm to all, the military is under command and control of the civilian officials.

We will conduct a Pass-in-Review to honor Principal Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, and our newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

The order of march will be Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps.

We plan on casting 400 commemorative coins to be given to participating Muscogee veterans after the march. The coins will have the Muscogee (Creek)seal and Veterans Office.

Coins numbers 1/400 will be given to Principal Chief Ellis, coin 2/400 will be given to Second Chief Berryhill, 399/400 will be given to the newly elected Second Chief and 400/400 will be given to the newly-elected Principal Chief.

The symbolism of these coins' numbers to our chiefs is to confirm the military is within command and control of our civilian officials.

We will assemble at 10 a.m. Nov. 10, 2011 at the Veterans Building where we will form and rehearse until 12 p.m. Chow is from 12-1 p.m. From 1-2 p.m., we will conduct a dry run and last minute adjustments. At 2 p.m., we will conduct a Pass-in-Review, which will be from VASO to the east of the Mound Building.

Please contact VASO your commemorative coin may be reserved. In closing, we march once every four years to honor the peaceful transition of power in our tribe; it should be honored and will be protected and recognized by us, the veterans of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

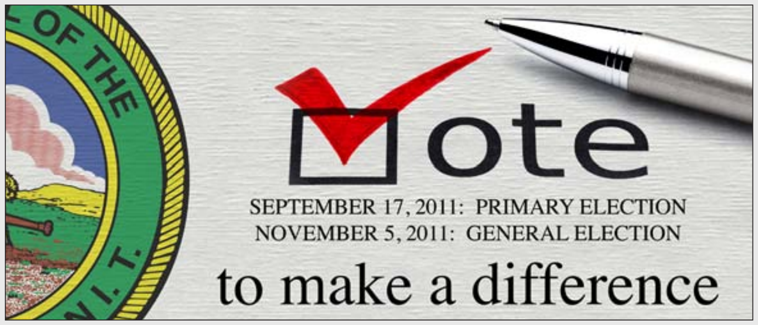
God bless our Muscogee Veterans, our Muscogee (Creek) Nation and our continued peaceful political process.

The Veterans' Scoop features articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

VETERANS SCOOP

MCN veterans urged to particpate in upcoming election

Ken Davis
Director, VASO


Vote
SEPTEMBER 17, 2011: PRIMARY ELECTION
NOVEMBER 5, 2011: GENERAL ELECTION
to make a difference

OKMULGEE — We have fought and served in the military all over the world, and sometimes we were just unable to vote. It is a privilege and honor, but more importantly it is a duty that we have sacrificed for and earned.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal elections are forthcoming; democracy only works when we participate. If you haven't registered to vote, register now.

Perhaps it is easier not to vote and let others decide the election, those who cast their votes do indeed have the right to criticize and compliment. In recent years, our voter turnout has been abysmal.

For those of you who say you have no impact, or nothing changes, you are wrong. Our next elected tribal leaders will be engaged, responsible, and responsive. All you have to do is vote.

Ask the candidates questions, voice concerns and recommendations then get out and vote. Far too often we rely on rumors instead of getting solid facts. Your vote must always be based on informed and timely facts.

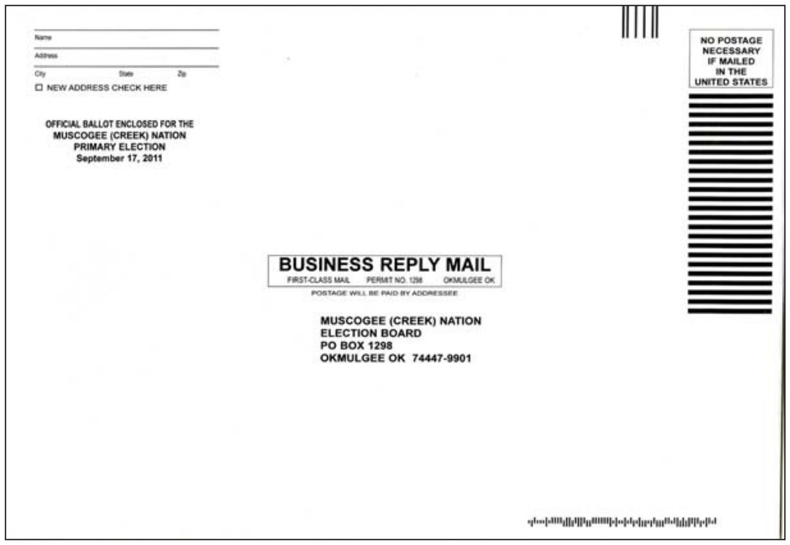
We, as Muscogee veterans, truly should be the first in line when the voting stations are opened. Muscogee veterans are the military arm of our tribe. We have the privilege of electing our leaders and our role after that is to be under the command and control of our civilian officials.

Hold very close and protect our continued gift of voting. We all know the right to vote has been earned with blood, sweat, and tears. In summation, if you do not vote, Muscogee Veterans, you really should remain quiet in criticisms and compliments.

God bless and be thankful for our Muscogee veterans, our tribe and our vote.

For more information on voting, please contact the MCN Election Board at (918) 732-7683.

CALL OF THE WILD
AUGUST 1ST - OCTOBER 12TH
PRIZES
2011 MODIFIED JEEP WRANGLER • 2011 POLARIS 550 BROWNING LE • $1,000 PSE X-FORCE BOW PACKAGE • $1,000 T/C ICON .243 PACKAGE
& OVER $10,000 IN CASH PRIZES
CREEK NATION Casino OKMULGEE
OPEN 24 HOURS • OVER 350 GAMES
HWY 75 @ EUFAULA ST. • (918)756-840
www.cncokmulgee.com
THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMIN
Pat's ARCHERY
BAILEY'S AUTO GROUP



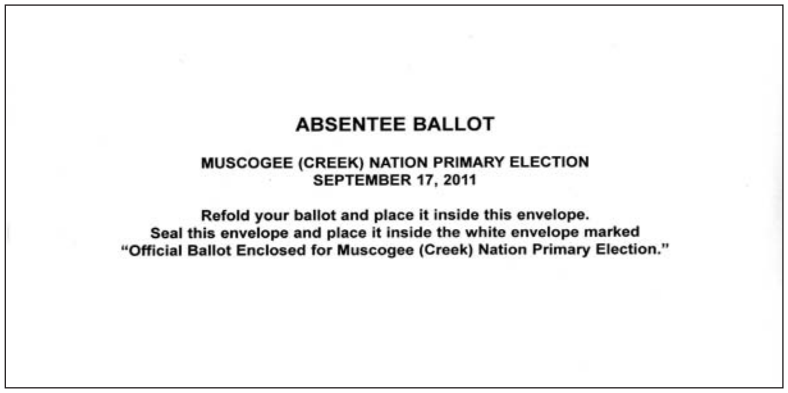
Name
Address
City State Zip
☐ NEW ADDRESS CHECK HERE

OFFICIAL BALLOT ENCLOSED FOR THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
PRIMARY ELECTION
September 17, 2011

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 1298 OKMULGEE OK
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
ELECTION BOARD
PO BOX 1298
OKMULGEE OK 74447-9901



ABSENTEE BALLOT

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PRIMARY ELECTION
SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

Refold your ballot and place it inside this envelope.
Seal this envelope and place it inside the white envelope marked
"Official Ballot Enclosed for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Primary Election."

Absentee

Continued from A1

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSENTEE VOTERS

1. Your Absentee Ballot MUST be returned by mail.

2. Your Absentee Ballot must be received by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board no later than 11 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011.

HAND DELIVERED BALLOTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

3. To vote, you must follow the instructions printed on the Absentee Ballot.

PLEASE USE A #2 PENCIL TO MARK YOUR BALLOT.

4. After marking your ballot, refold in the same manner as you received it and place the ballot in the envelope marked "ABSENTEE BALLOT, MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PRIMARY ELECTION, September 17,2011."

5. Seal this envelope with the ballot inside.

6. Place this sealed envelope inside the white envelope marked "OFFICIAL BALLOT ENCLOSED FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PRIMARY ELECTION."

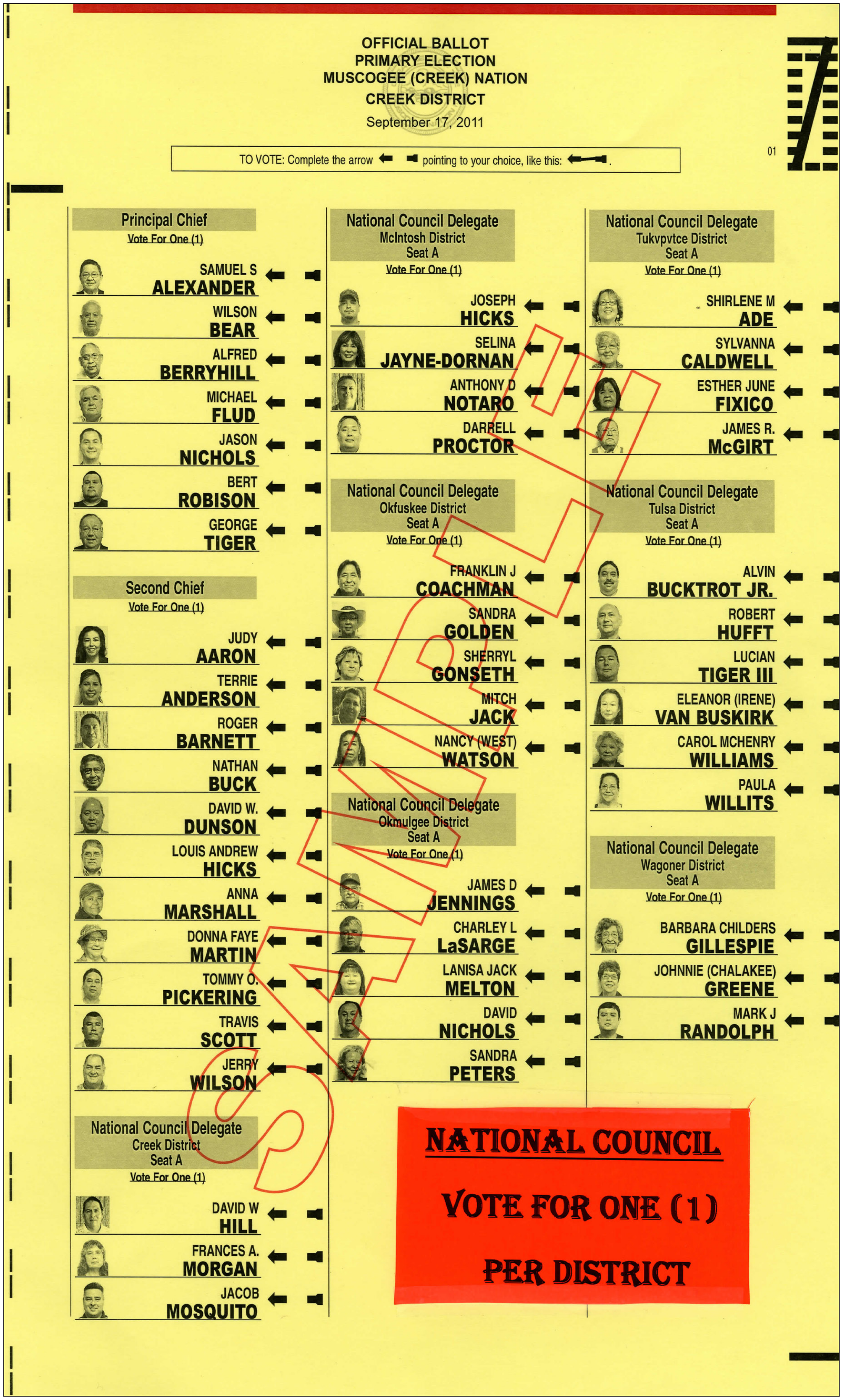
7. Complete the certification that is printed on the reverse side of the envelope and seal it.

YOUR BALLOT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF THE CERTIFICATION IS NOT COMPLETE. YOU MUST USE THE POSTAGE PAID ENVELOPE ENCLOSED.

Please sign your name on the return envelope the way the ballot was addressed to you.

UNSIGNED BALLOTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

For more information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732- 7684 or (918) 732-7685.



OFFICIAL BALLOT
PRIMARY ELECTION
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
CREEK DISTRICT
September 17, 2011

TO VOTE: Complete the arrow pointing to your choice, like this: .

01

Principal Chief
Vote For One (1)

- SAMUEL S **ALEXANDER**
- WILSON **BEAR**
- ALFRED **BERRYHILL**
- MICHAEL **FLUD**
- JASON **NICHOLS**
- BERT **ROBISON**
- GEORGE **TIGER**

Second Chief
Vote For One (1)

- JUDY **AARON**
- TERRIE **ANDERSON**
- ROGER **BARNETT**
- NATHAN **BUCK**
- DAVID W. **DUNSON**
- LOUIS ANDREW **HICKS**
- ANNA **MARSHALL**
- DONNA FAYE **MARTIN**
- TOMMY O. **PICKERING**
- TRAVIS **SCOTT**
- JERRY **WILSON**

National Council Delegate
Creek District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

- DAVID W **HILL**
- FRANCES A. **MORGAN**
- JACOB **MOSQUITO**

National Council Delegate
McIntosh District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

- JOSEPH **HICKS**
- SELINA **JAYNE-DORNAN**
- ANTHONY D **NOTARO**
- DARRELL **PROCTOR**

National Council Delegate
Okfuskee District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

- FRANKLIN J **COACHMAN**
- SANDRA **GOLDEN**
- SHERRYL **GONSETH**
- MITCH **JACK**
- NANCY (WEST) **WATSON**

National Council Delegate
Okmulgee District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

- JAMES D **JENNINGS**
- CHARLEY L **LaSARGE**
- LANISA JACK **MELTON**
- DAVID **NICHOLS**
- SANDRA **PETERS**

National Council Delegate
Tukvpvtce District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

- SHIRLENE M **ADE**
- SYLVANNA **CALDWELL**
- ESTHER JUNE **FIXICO**
- JAMES R. **McGIRT**

National Council Delegate
Tulsa District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

- ALVIN **BUCKTROT JR.**
- ROBERT **HUFFT**
- LUCIAN **TIGER III**
- ELEANOR (IRENE) **VAN BUSKIRK**
- CAROL MCHENRY **WILLIAMS**
- PAULA **WILLITS**

National Council Delegate
Wagoner District
Seat A
Vote For One (1)

- BARBARA CHILDERS **GILLESPIE**
- JOHNNIE (CHALAKEE) **GREENE**
- MARK J **RANDOLPH**

NATIONAL COUNCIL

VOTE FOR ONE (1)

PER DISTRICT

SAMPLE

2011 MCN voter precinct information

Creek District

• Bristow Indian Community Center
710 S. Main St.
• Sapulpa Indian Community Center
1020 N. Brown St.

Mcintosh District

• Eufaula Indian Community Center
800 Forest Ave.
• Checotah Indian Community Center
500 Owens Ave.
• Hanna Indian Community Center
Last road through Hanna, turn east and go four miles
• Yardeka Indian Community Center
Eight miles SE of Henryetta (one mile south of Salem Baptist) S. 250 Rd.

Muskogee District

• Muscogee Indian Community Center
111 South Virginia

Okfuskee

• Okemah Indian Community Center
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
• Weleetka Indian Community
602 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District

• Dewar Indian Community Center
212 Luella St.
• Okmulgee Indian Community Center
2701 N. Miami
• Twin Hills Community Center
8110 Highway 52

Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District

• Dustin Indian Community Center
Main Street
• Holdenville Indian Community Center
224 E. Poplar
• Wetumka Indian Community Center
608 N. Creek St.

Tulsa District

• Glenpool Indian Community Center
13839 S. Casper
• Tulsa Indian Community Center
8611 South Union

Wagoner District

• Koweta Indian Community
30925 E. 141st St. S

September

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Southern Regional Office Monthly Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FD-Food Distibution E&T-Employment & Training	Office	Number	452-1101	1 Social Services@FD 9am-11am Child Support Enforcement 8am-5pm E&T 8am-5pm Housing 8am-5pm	2 Housing 8am-5pm	3
4	5 Closed for Labor Day	6 Language 8am-5pm Housing 8am-5pm	7 Legal Services (appointment only) Citizenship 10am-3pm Housing 8am-5pm National Council 9am-4pm Reintegration 9am-4pm	8 E&T 8am-5pm Housing 8am-5pm	9 WIC@Clinic 9am-4pm Housing 8am-5pm	10
11	12 Housing 8am-5pm	13 Language 8am-5pm Tax Commission 9am-3pm Housing 8am-5pm	14 Housing 8am-5pm National Council 9am-4pm Reintegration 9am-4pm	15 Child Support Enforcement 8am-5pm E&T 8am-5pm Tax Commission 9am-3pm Housing 8am-5pm	16 Housing 8am-5pm	17
18	19 Housing 8am-5pm	20 Language 8am-5pm Tax Commission 9am-3pm Housing 8am-5pm	21 Legal Services 9am-3pm Housing 8am-5pm National Council 9am-4pm Reintegration 9am-4pm	22 E&T 8am-5pm Tax Commission 9am-3pm Housing 8am-5pm	23 WIC@Clinic 9am-4pm Housing 8am-5pm	24
25	26 Housing 8am-5pm	27 Language 8am-5pm Housing 8am-5pm	28 Housing 8am-5pm National Council 9am-4pm Reintegration 9am-4pm	29 E&T 8am-5pm Housing 8am-5pm	30	2011

School Clothing applications accepted through Oct. 7

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, is now accepting applications for school clothing.

Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of Oct. 7, 2011 at 5 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek citizen students, no matter where they live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program are as follows:

• Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.

• The student must be at least three years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be four years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade.

All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application.

Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.

• The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.

• Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200. (Example: If you received $400 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350, you will be eligible to receive $200). Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

• The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

• Any Creek Nation Child Development Center

• Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center

• You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

• Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you

All applications must be returned or mailed to:

School Clothing Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

Okemah

Continued from A1

A tour of the hospital revealed a combination of new up-to-date medical hardware for patient care, housed in a building that has seen better times. There were water-soaked ceiling tiles, peeling wallpaper, equipment crowding the hallways and a men's room in the clinic lobby that had a strong foul odor. Those conditions made the hospital a target of social media forum discussions criticizing its environment and cleanliness. Comments have mentioned insects, dirty facilities, examination rooms in need of repair and equipment in need of replacement among other things. In response, McLemore replied, "It's unfortunate that we've allowed this facility to get into this condition, but at the same time, if it's well used, heavily used, you're going to have this kind of wear and tear, especially after 62 years of operation." McLemore said repairs were scheduled, but that admitted that some of those discussions were probably correct, "Well, it's unfortunate that some of those comments may actually be true. But, that's why we have exterminator services come in. I mean, we have unwanted pests even in these (Lackey Hall) offices here. It's unfortunate that we have those kinds of things to address. As far as the cleanliness, we're making every effort to get our staff—some with many years of experience—to actually make sure those facilities are among the cleanest and best maintained that patients would expect to go to."

"I'm very happy that we've been found to be in full compliance, with no deficiencies. Absolutely, I'm happy with that."
— Ed McLemore, Director of Muscogee Nation Division of Health, Aug.10, 2011

During a second unannounced revisit at the facility on July 6 and 7, the state survey team found that the hospital still had not achieved compliance with conditions of participation.

Comments contained in the two state surveys primarily focused on the administration of programs and not the physical plant. State surveyors were critical of the organizational structure, "Based on review of governing body meeting minutes and hospital documents and interviews with hospital staff, the hospital does not ensure the organizational structure of the hospital is effective in providing quality health care in a safe environment. The governing body failed to monitor, evaluate and ensure the services of the hospital."

Gary Fife/*MNN*

State health surveyors also cited specific deficiencies in areas of infection control, nutritional needs, radiology, patient respiratory procedures, physicians credentials, drug storage, medication errors, disinfectant use, quality assurance activity and total review of hospital activities. Reports and minutes from oversight committees were not present.

An Executive Order from Principal Chief A. D. Ellis July 15 ordered that all tribal departments cooperate to the fullest extent, that the tribal Controller expedite funds for emergency assistance and that the Director of the Health Division take any and all actions necessary to insure compliance with the State Department of Health. The Director was ordered to provide a full financial report within 30 days.

Gary Fife/*MNN*

Pictured above is the interior of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okemah Hospital.

Muscogee health administrators conceded there were problems that the survey discovered. However, top tribal health officials called the survey a routine operation that would discover deficiencies in practically every health facility operation. Dr. Zachariah Anderson is the Chief Medical Officer for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) Health Division, "Most of these are routine surveys that are done about every three years. All hospitals have deficiencies of some sort, and then you come back with some plan of correction and they may come back and re-survey the area you were deficient in and see if your plan of correction has fixed that issue." Ed McLemore, Director of the MCN Health Division echoed Andersons' position, "You're going to have deficiencies. I venture to say that there's not a system anywhere—if a team of surveyors were to come in—wouldn't find some area that needed some improvement. That's the nature of the accreditation process. If systems never had any deficiencies, you wouldn't need an accreditation process because everybody would be in a perfect situation all along."

Many of the gaps pointed out in the state survey resulted from a lack of information available on the hospital activities. Important information was not available at the hospital and it was not getting to the administrative officials in Lackey Hall over a period of time. Anderson agreed that process was something they should have been doing and that corrections could have been made. "Well, it should have been. Like I said, if the management level here doesn't convey the information up the ladder, there's not a true way that we could tell unless we get something back such as a survey that says, 'Hey, these issues weren't being addressed,' and then at that point, they're identified. But, yes, the management team here at the hospital should have been monitoring those things and indentifying those issues and then sending it further up."

McLemore said the problems did occur, but any perception that these problems were allowed to exist is wrong, "Well, when you say 'allowed to exist', that's kind of a biased perspective to me. Had we had known that there were problems of this nature, you can rest assured that we would have taken steps, just as we did in the last two months to address those deficiencies. As I said, those deficiencies have been corrected. So, to say that we 'allowed them to continue', I don't think is correct. I think they existed without management's full knowledge and awareness in all respects."

To correct some of these problems McLemore said key personnel were transferred in from other areas such as the nursing field and from infection control. Without naming any specific positions he said new administrators and managers were now in supervisory positions.

SEE OKEMAH - A8

AUTHORIZED PERSONELL ONLY
Please be sure to sign out each item!
Check Door! Make sure door is locked!
Thanks!

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Okemah

Continued from A7

Anderson stated that certain staff had stepped down and that a new process was in place with a management team that will monitor ongoing activities. A new outside contractor will perform monitoring and evaluations of hospital procedures and activities. Both Anderson and McLemore asserted that no disciplinary personnel actions were taken against any hospital managers, supervisors or staff. According to McLemore it would be counterproductive to punish people for making mistakes and that he would rather encourage them in a positive fashion.

As for Ellis' Executive Order, McLemore said that the Chief had been very supportive in the situation, "The purpose of that Executive Order was to make sure that all of the folks that we interact with throughout the Muscogee Nation governmental system were aware of the seriousness of the issue that we were facing." The Chief, McLemore continued, volunteered to do whatever his office could to assist.

On Aug. 10, McLemore declared that the deficiencies at the Okemah hospital had been corrected to the satisfaction of the state inspectors, "Right now, I'm telling you they've been corrected. They haven't been allowed to continue, every deficiency has been corrected. The second follow-up visit occurred yesterday (Aug. 9). We met with the team from the State Department of Health. They indicated that the hard work of the staff had paid off."

The State Health Facilities Director confirmed this in a letter Aug. 16, 2011. Their Post-Certification Revisit Report stated that the deficiencies "were determined to have been corrected." The agency also wrote in its final comments: "The hospital was determined to be back in compliance with the Conditions of Participation for Critical Access Hospitals."

McLemore noted that a facility replacement plan was being developed, and discussions with the local Okemah community were trying to get their feedback as to what kind of new medical facility should be pursued.

McLemore ended saying, "We will make every effort to insure that we do not encounter these kinds of difficulties that we've had to address in the past months again."

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Peeling wallpaper adorned the halls of the hospital upon inspection by the MNN.

WIC Breastfeeding Spotlight: Krista and Victor Pedraza

Photo courtesy/*MCN WIC*

Pictured above is Muscogee (Creek) Nation breastfeeding mother Krista with son, Victor Pedraza.

Media Release
MCN WIC Program

OKMULGEE — Krista Pedraza did her homework when it came to how she was going to feed her son, Victor. She read information about breastfeeding versus formula feeding so she could make an informed decision. But her family is what really inspired her to breastfeed.

Her cousin breastfed her children for over a year and encouraged Krista to do so as well. Her mother-in-law was extremely influential, and offered support and motivation, too.

Krista read that "breast is best" and said, "Just seeing the formula recalls and understanding the difference between the two ways to feed an infant made it clear my baby would never be given formula."

She went on to say, "Breastfeeding is easier than formula feeding because breast milk is always ready. It was especially easy at nighttime feedings, and Victor's favorite position for nursing is lying down."

When it came to breastfeeding in public, Krista said "It was hard because of the looks but Victor did not like being covered by a blanket, so my decision was to make my baby comfortable, not worry what others thought."

What would Krista have missed out on by not breastfeeding? "The feeling of me getting to help my baby grow, knowing I am keeping my baby healthy - that I am helping my baby develop is just awesome!"

Krista's advice to pregnant or breastfeeding women is, "Don't give up. You will get there, it will become natural and it gets easier every day you do it."

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program, contact the office at (918) 758-2772.

SECTION B

FEATURES

Sept. 1, 2011 edition

MCN Annual Diabetes Summit

• Fifth annual event emphasizes health and fitness

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

SAPULPA — Diabetes is a disease that plagues nearly 26 million Americans, according to a press release by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) that released earlier this year. American Indian adults have the highest percentage rate of diabetes than any other racial minority group, the report stated.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program is doing all that it can to educate and help with prevention of the disease. The MCN Diabetes Prevention and Management Program's biggest educational and training institute on diabetes awareness is the annual MCN Citizen's Diabetes Awareness Summit.

"It's the latest and most updated material for the diabetic people," said Leona Fish, Tulsa. "I wouldn't miss it for anything."

The summit was organized with help from the Sapulpa and Tulsa Indian communities.

"This morning I learned a lot from the presenter's slideshow," Fish said.

The morning presentation consisted of facts about obesity in children by Dr. Stephen Ponder. Ponder, a Meskwaki pediatrician, lectured on facts about childhood obesity and its relation to children developing diabetes. Dr. Ponder was the summit's leading diabetic expert. Ponder has lived with type I diabetes for most of his life.

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Mitch and Bristol Fisher participate in an activity at the 2011 annual MCN Diabetes Summit held in Sapulpa.

Dr. Ponder opened his presentation with a remark on the recent study that predicts by 2030, half of the American population will be obese.

This year's summit was different than previous ones because there was an emphasis on physical participation by the attendee. Several sessions were held that showed how to be active without having to have much physical restraint on the body.

"I think it is to make it clear to folks that one of the things they can do to take control of diabetes is to get up and move, to exercise, to get the metabolism rate up," remarked Ed McLemore, Director of the Muscogee Health Division. "It's not just running, but exercise options are presented and demonstrated. I think that's one of the keys to getting things under control."

SEE SUMMIT - B5

Glenpool Indian Community to elect officers Oct. 11

Media Release
Glenpool Creek Indian Community

GLENPOOL — The election of Glenpool Indian Community officers is set for Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011 from 6:30 p.m.– 9:30 p.m., at the Glenpool Indian Community Center.

Any Creek citizen living within the juridictional boundaries of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community who would like to become a member of the community and vote in the upcoming election must apply for membership before Sept. 30, 2011.

For more information please contact Dianna Billie at (918) 691-6006.

Tulsa Indian Community to elect officers Sept. 22

Media Release
Tulsa Creek Indian Community

TULSA — The Tulsa Creek Indian Community will be conducting officer elections for the upcoming year. The following information is provided for candidates:

Letters of Intent are due by Sept. 8 (for both boards). All should specify positions for which they are applying (per MCN CR&D Manager Anita Freeman's letter).

Background checks and drug tests must be completed not later than Sept. 15, 2011. Anyone who completed his or hers last month are exempt. The deadline applies only to new candidates (who weren't on previously set election). All required documents must be turned in and verified. Names of candidates and positions, who have submitted letters of intent, will be posted on both east and south doors daily.

Sept. 8, 2011, there will be a Board of Directors meeting at 5:30 p.m., for approval of temporary "rules, regulations and procedures" for elections from Election Committee (R, R & P will apply only to these two elections).

Sept. 12, 2011 there will be a special TCIC meeting to approve the temporary rules, regulations and procedures beginning at 6:30 p.m. (This will not be a pot-luck, just the meeting).

Sept. 22, 2011 a special TCIC Community meeting will being at 6 p.m. for Election to fill vacancies of the TCIC Board of Directors: chairman and treasurer. Meeting will adjourn immediately after voting is complete.

Sept. 22, 2011 a regular meeting will commence beginning at 7 p.m. The election for the TCIC Business Board may then be conducted.

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Creek Student attends Dartmouth Summer Institute

B7 PEOPLE

Birthday: Beckham Beaver

Mvskoke Country: *Reclaiming the Chickasaw plum*

by James Treat

Just as there are many ways to track time through the calendar year, there can be various methods for charting the lands of this remarkable continent.

A notable effort to reconceive "America" on the basis of culinary geography is documented in the recent book Renewing America's Food Traditions. Edited by ethnobotanist Gary Paul Nabhan, this lavishly illustrated volume grew from the timely collaboration of seven major organizations committed to "saving and savoring the continent's most endangered foods."

Nabhan and his colleagues have mapped North America—including Northwest Mexico and most of Canada—by identifying thirteen regional "food nations" distinguished by place-based foodways. Each food nation is named for an iconic dish, and anyone familiar with Mvskoke tastes will be gratified to learn that Mvskoke country, both before and after Removal, is encompassed by "Cornbread Nation." Back east, this region borders "Chestnut Nation" and "Gumbo Nation" in the Mvskoke homeland; out west, this agricultural complex shares a boundary with "Bison Nation" running across the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The RAFT collaborative has inventoried more than a thousand heirloom varieties and heritage breeds that are currently threatened, endangered, or functionally extinct. Nearly 100 are profiled in the book, at least half of which were—or still are—indigenous staples. The 10 plants and animals detailed in a chapter on Cornbread Nation are as colorfully named as they are appetizing: Yellow Hickory King Dent corn, Mulefoot hog, Southern Queen yam, Early Golden persimmon.

But the most intriguing story here, from a Mvskoke perspective, is surely the so-called Chickasaw plum.

Early colonists coveted the different "wild Plums of America," the trees as well as their fruits, which was "considered to be of extraordinary excellence in flavor." The name was coined in 1773 by botanist William Bartram, who mistakenly believed this particular species had been brought to Mvskoke country "from the S. W., beyond the Missisippi, by the Chicasaws." This identification was codified in 1785 when the plum was assigned a scientific name: "Prunus angustifolia, Chickasaw Plumb."

George Washington planted three long rows of P. angustifolia behind the garden at Mount Vernon. Thomas Jefferson established the species at eight different locations on his estate, and "of all the tree fruits grown at Monticello today, the Chickasaw plum is the healthiest and most vigorous with its clean, shiny, pest-free foliage and abundant fruit production."

The plot thickened during the Creek War, nearly two centuries ago, when frontier militia and their Cherokee allies massacred residents of the Hillabee villages near the Tallapoosa River on Nov. 18, 1813. Having also chanced upon a patch of fruit trees, one settler returned home with a supply of native plum pits, which he cultivated in Knox County, Tenn.

Locals loved the new plum and took to calling it "General Jackson" and "Old Hickory," commemorating the spoils of war. The looted fruit later made its way to Ill., where it was propagated under the name "Chickasaw Chief," and to Wis., where it came to be known as the "Miner" plum, now the Chickasaw's best-known cultivar.

Writing in 1911, horticulturalist U. P. Hedrick described this species as "one of the most distinct of plums" and "the first of the native plums to be named," of which there were already more than 40 named cultivars. "The fruits are good in quality, attractive in appearance, comparatively curculio-proof [pest-resistant]," and "especially suited for culinary uses." But industrial agriculture had little use for this native commodity, and over the past century P. angustifolia was nearly lost and forgotten.

Recent discoveries near Horseshoe Bend on the Tallapoosa River, however, have shed new light on both the plum and its history.

Most immigrant writers have assumed this indigenous fruit to be wild. Yet Bartram saw plenty of Chickasaw plums during his travels in Mvskoke country, and he "never saw it wild in the forests, but always in old deserted Indian plantations." Hedrick also noted that "it is usually found near human habitations and on the margins of fields," and that "a careful study of recent botanical works indicates that the species is indigenous to the southeastern United States."

Finally, in 2004, botanists working at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park found six cross-compatible species of native Prunus—including P. angustifolia—near the site of Tohopeka village. It now seems clear that the original specimens taken from Hillabee, a few miles to the west, had been carefully cultivated by Mvskoke growers.

Nabhan and his RAFT colleagues extol this plum for its "primacy among the continent's great fruits," concluding that "perhaps the Creek were more accomplished horticulturalists than anyone has given them credit for."

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

I'm back in Oklahoma. I returned last week to assist with the care of my mother in her home in Tulsa. I don't know how long I will be here. I'm looking forward to catching up with relatives and friends, and working with Dana Tiger on a project for our youth.

I landed after about three weeks of travel to Hawaii, Aotearoa, the Maori name for their homelands now called New Zealand, and my home in New Mexico. In Hawaii I had a special time with friends and teachers. Each of us has many teachers along the way, those who inspire and test us. Our enemies are often our most exacting teachers. We don't often consider them as teachers, yet, they are as they send us to the root of our being and we come to know ourselves utterly. Many of our teachers can be animals, plants, and the elements. Even a car or computer can be your teacher. Consider the lessons of patience when you power up your computer in the morning and it doesn't work, though it worked fine when you turned it off in the evening! My printer is a very sensitive soul and gets rather miffed and rattled when there's a paper jam. I've learned to allow it time to pout. I shut it off for a while then restart. If I get upset while listening or speaking to some discordant story my phone flickers and shuts off. It is teaching me to not react and to temper what I am saying. I include the Pacific Ocean as one of my teachers. The ocean has taught me about balance, clarity and cleansing. It has also given me one of the best days in my life, the day I paddled out toward perfect canoe surfing waves, past the sand bar at Kane'ohe and found myself slipping through a sea turtle convention. There must have been over sixty turtles there. I stopped paddling for a while and drifted through quietly to not disturb them.

Aotearoa is a special place. Towards the end of the twelve-hour flight from Los Angeles to Auckland I began to see the East coast of the North Island. I saw the spirits of mists and how each had a name and a home, and watched as they settled into their favorite places. The next evening I was given an official greeting at the marae Hongoeka, the home place of the Maori writer Patricia Grace and her husband the esteemed Dick Grace near Plimmerton, NZ. A marae is a sacred place in a Maori community that serves as a social and spiritual meeting place. It is a gathering place for many in the community. I just watched a video on YouTube where local school children were welcomed into the marae and stayed there for the night. Visitors are treated well, with what we call vnvketkv. And the marae is beautiful, made of carvings and paintings. Every element of design has a meaning. What made my visit unusual, everyone said, was that it began snowing. They said it had never snowed before! I was treated like family there, fed their specialty of abalone fritters, and there was even a band of Maori musicians from the community! Mvto, mvto!

And finally, after my performance in Wellington, NZ, where many Maori showed up, I began talking to a tall, good-looking man who reminded me of our native men, Hone Harawira. He asked me if I knew Phillip Deere. Of course, I said. We spoke well of his memory. Turns out he'd visited Deere's encampment at Okemah in the seventies! And I learned that Harawira is a major figure in the country's leadership. Made me happy to hear our beloved Phillip Deere's name so far away, spoken in the breath of someone who has made a huge difference in his community.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Cully-Lowe Family Reunion

KONOWA — The 2011 Cully-Lowe Family Reunion, Saturday, Sept.10, 2011 from11 a.m., 'til the cows come home at the Konawa Community Center at the City Park.

All main dishes and drinks will be provided. Family members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. There will be plenty of food, games, music, fun, laughter, reuniting with family members and meeting new ones!

For more information, please contact Deidre Yarbrough, Secretary at (405) 397-8735.

Okmulgee County Community Baby Shower

OKMULGEE — The first annual Okmulgee County Community Baby Shower will be held Oct. 4, 2011 at the Green Country Technology Center.

The shower will be held for expecting mothers and mothers of babies six months and younger. Applications are now available at various agencies throughout the county and the deadline is Sept. 15.

For more information, please contact Tressia at (918) 756-1883, Cindy at (918) 756-7700, or April at (918) 728-1912.

Haikey Chapel to host Indian Taco Sale Sept. 10

TULSA — Haikey Chapel UMC will be having an Indian Taco Sale Sept. 10, 2011 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Cost of the taco will be $7 and includes a drink. The church is located at 8815 E 101st St., in Tulsa. Proceeds will benefit the Oklahoma Indian Methodist Conference Endowment Fund.

For more information, please contact Royce Wittman at (918) 284-7003.

'Youth Explosion' Christian Concert set for Sept. 10

OKMULGEE — The 2011 Youth Explosion Christian Youth Concert will be held at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Claude Cox Omniplex Sept. 10, 2011 beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The 2011-2012 Muscogee (Creek) Nation royalty will be in attendance along with bands such as Consumed Worship Ministry, New Child, Champions for Christ, Team Swoosh, Geebon Gouge and S.O.G. Crew from Calif.

Admission is $5 at the gate. For more information, please contact Robert Lay at (918) 652 - 5340.

Francis Family Reunion

EUFAULA — The 24th annual Francis family reunion will be Saturday, Sept. 17 at Artusee Indian Baptist Church in Eufaula from 1-5 p.m. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and dessert as well as any old family photos. There will be a memorial to past family members and fellowship of family and friends.

For more information, contact Carolyn King (816) 510-6540 or Anna (918) 437-5953.

Benefit Indian taco dinner

TULSA — The Riverside Indian Smoke Shop is hosting a benefit Indian taco dinner for Assistant Manager Teresa Wesley who has been diagnosed with stage four bone cancer.

The dinner will be held Sunday, Sept. 11 from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Tulsa Creek Indian Community center located at 8611 S. Union.

Cost will be $7 and includes taco, dessert and tea. Donations are appreciated and all proceeds will help with medical expenses.

Okmulgee CASA in-house training set for Sept. 26

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation CASA has recently introduced an independent study option that makes it easier to train from home in order to become a court appointed special advocate for abused and neglected children. Each CASA advocate will be assigned a trainer and supervisor to walk them through the process.

Okmulgee CASA will also have in-house training beginning Sept. 26 at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Nancy Hancock at (918) 756-2549 or email casaokm8@sbc.global.net

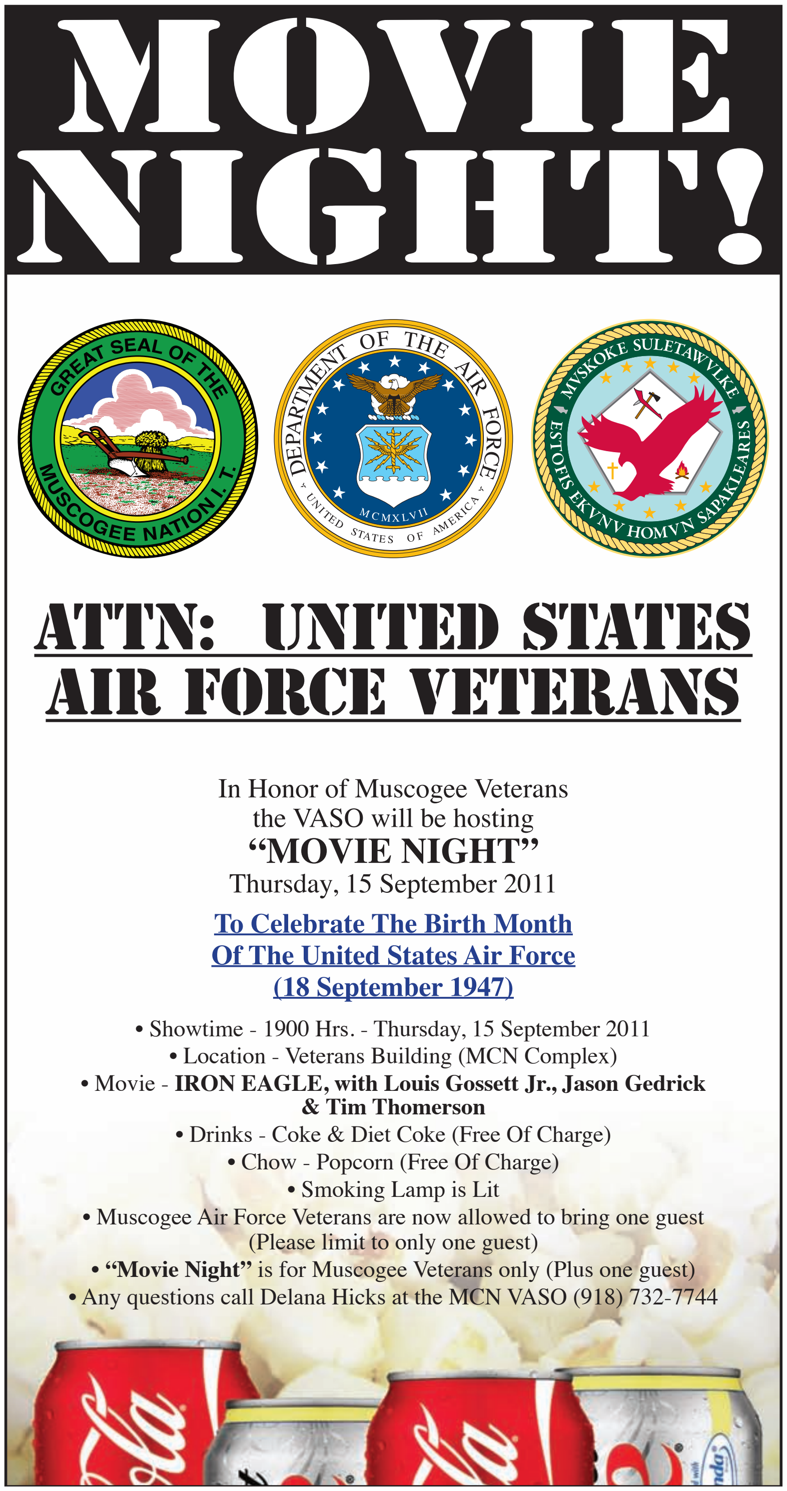
Concharty Gospel Singing set for Sept. 24

OKMULGEE — Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee, will host a gospel singing Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m., and singing will begin at 6:30 p.m.

All singing groups welcome and encouraged to attend. Join us for an evening of praise, good food and fellowship.

For more information, please call. (918) 366-8450 or visit the website at: www.kvncate.com

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.



MOVIE NIGHT!

GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION I. T.
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MCMXLVII
MVSKOKE SULETAWVLKE ESTOFIS EKVNV HOMVN SAPAKLEARES

ATTN: UNITED STATES AIR FORCE VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
Thursday, 15 September 2011

To Celebrate The Birth Month
Of The United States Air Force
(18 September 1947)

- Showtime - 1900 Hrs. - Thursday, 15 September 2011
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **IRON EAGLE, with Louis Gossett Jr., Jason Gedrick & Tim Thomerson**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Muscogee Air Force Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Delana Hicks at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7744

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College of the Muscogee Nation students host candidate forum

Monte Deer
College of the Muscogee Nation

OKMULGEE — Project Management (Service Learning) is a form of experiential learning within the Tribal Services degree plan of study at the College of the Muscogee Nation (CMN). Students enrolled in this course, plan, implement, and participate in a tribal community service project in order to develop a better understanding of the project management function. This course is intended for students in their final semester before receiving their Associate's Degree and it utilizes many of the skills learned in the courses leading up to this degree. The Project Management course culminates with students developing a portfolio of their service learning experience that addresses local needs, documents civic responsibility, and highlights project achievements.

Students enrolled in the Project Management class for the summer 2011 semester developed a project that addressed the importance of Muscogee (Creek) Citizens' involvement in Tribal Government, particularly the 2011 Chief's Election. The students created a project that focused on two parts; 1) a Voter Registration Campaign and 2) a Chief Candidate Question and Answer Forum.

First, the class began the voter registration campaign by adopting a slogan composed by the late Liz Thomas; Satkv Pumvpvketos (Make your vote count). Next, the class contacted the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board and set up events to promote voter registration which would encourage citizens to actively and informatively vote in this year's election. The students worked with the Election Board staff to set up an information table at CMN during the Summer Youth workers' orientation day and registered 73 new voters. The students set up two more times at CMN registering 16 more people for a total of 89 new voters. In addition, the students presented graphs and statistics taken from voter registration counts by the Election Board showing only 31% of eligible citizens were registered voters. The students encouraged registered voters to bring in family and friends who were not registered and offered door prizes to get the word out.

Second, the class began planning the Principal Chief Candidate Forum by contacting the Principal Chief candidates to schedule a time to host a forum. Each student was assigned with contacting one of the candidates and informing them about the class, the forum, and the scheduled date. Next, the Mound Building Auditorium at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex was selected and reserved as the location because of the available seating, sound system, and central location. The class then discussed a procedure to conduct the forum and created an agenda. The goal of the forum was to provide a service to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in keeping with the mission of the College of the Muscogee Nation to educate the people. Through the forum citizens would be encouraged to become involved in the election and ultimately the Tribal Government by having an active voice the election process of the Principal Chief.

The Principal Chief Candidate Forum was held Aug. 11, 2011 from 6-8 p.m., in the Mound Auditorium. All seven of the candidates participated in the forum. At the start of the forum, all of the candidates were given five minutes each to give their introduction and campaign platforms.

The Project Management students handed out question cards to the audience to write out their questions. The students began collecting the question cards as the last two candidates began their introductions. Next, seven audience questions were selected and presented in order to the candidates. Each candidate had two minutes to respond to the questions and a rotating system ensured that each candidate would respond first to one of the seven questions. Each candidate presented their ideas with poise and professionalism and gave the audience much to consider on Election Day.

The forum was well received by the all the candidates, CMN Board of Regent Member Sharon Mouss, National Council Representatives, and the many Muscogee (Creek) citizens in attendance. The students were complimented on their successful planning, implementation, and professionalism of the forum. The College of the Muscogee Nation would like to thank all those in attendance of the forum and wish all the candidates good luck in their campaigns. The Project Management students are Shannon Broncho, Lisa Bear, Rolland Vietzke, Senora Manley, Brandy Fife, Emma Washington, and Shannon Mitchell.

For more information on the College of the Muscogee Nation, call (918) 549-2806.

MCN royalty attend California Creek meeting

Photo courtesy MCN/*Bill Proctor*

Pictured above (from left to right) are Miss Muscogee Nation Leah Scott, Rev. Gregory Wayne Douglass of the Native American Methodist Church of Anaheim and Junior Miss Muscogee Nation Nancy Deere.

Leah Scott
2011-2012 Miss Muscogee Nation

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Hensci, Leah Scott ce hocefkvtos. This month I had the opportunity to go the California Muscogee (Creek) Association Annual meeting. I had an awesome time meeting all of the Muscogee Creek citizens there. I would like to thank them for being so gracious and kind during our visit. I had a wonderful time getting to talk with them some of you. I am thankful and honored to have been invited.

It has been my pleasure to be able to represent the Muscogee Nation in Calif. I want to thank everyone that helped make this trip much a successful one. I want to specialty thank Eli Grayson for being such a gracious host and making this trip such a memorable one.

I want to thank Muscogee Nation for giving me this opportunity to share some of our culture with our relatives in Calif. It was the highlight of my trip and for that I am thankful.

In the coming months, both Nancy and I are looking forward to attending the tribal pageants and our trip to the Ocmulgee Monument in Georgia. We will keep you updated on our activities throughout the year.

Mvto.

Nancy Deere
2011-2012 Junior Miss Muscogee Nation

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The California Creek Association welcomed all of the Oklahoma Creeks with open arms. Although I was nervous entering the church where the meeting was to take place, it did not take them but a minute to make me feel welcomed.

This trip was a wonderful opportunity to meet the Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens from California. We spent the majority of our time visiting with all of the citizens. It was amazing to hear their stories of their relatives in Oklahoma and how they ended up in California. What really shocked me was finding out that I have relatives in California and was able to meet them.

I would like to thank the California Creek Association for the invitation with a special thank you to Eli Grayson for being our host during the trip. Both Leah and I had an amazing time at the meeting and a short trip to Disneyland afterwards. We have never been there before and we had a blast! The overall trip was amazing and I am truly grateful for the opportunity.

Mvto.

Creek Student Attends Dartmouth Summer Business Institute

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

MNN/*Gary Fife*
Anthony Minor recently completed the 2011 LEAD Summer Business Institute at Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H.

OKMULGEE — He used to read the local papers, but since this past summer, the Wall Street Journal is now on his reading list.

Not a bad addition for a Creek high school junior from Okemah who has a new interest in the world of business. Anthony Minor is that Creek student and he spent this past summer at Dartmouth College, in Hanover, N.H., attending the 2011 LEAD Summer Business Institute conducted at the prestigious Ivy League school. Minor was one of about 30 students chosen to attend the institute.

Minor won a scholarship to attend the all-expense paid program. While at the college's Tuck Business School, they were presented with a heavy dose of entrepreneurship, economics, leadership and strategy, tempered with some fun. While immersed in campus life at Dartmouth, Minor took a full semesters' worth of courses focusing on accounting, finance, economics and ethics. Students had to compete in a business plan competition that was evaluated by a panel of judges. Minor says, his team put together a marketing plan for a Google musical product aimed at youth people. Their plan for "Music Beta" won first place in the student competition.

Besides the rigorous academic agenda, students did get a bit of fun to go along with the learning part. They were treated to a minor league baseball game, visits to Boston and some first hand experience in an East Coast metropolis and as well as living in a small, residential campus.

Since absorbing this intense three-week program, the institute has altered his education plan, "After attending this, I have a new interest in business. I'm probably still going to pursue my engineering degree for aerospace but business will definitely be a huge part of what I do now in college. For most students with the ambition, it's not going to be that hard for them, as long as you do decent in math," Minor said. Now, he's thinking of starting some sort of business on his own, although he hasn't made any decisions on that yet.

The LEAD curriculum offered students a chance to talk with tribal leaders and other Native people who work in the finance industry share their experiences and knowledge to understand how such a career can be of benefit in Native communities. The program works in conjunction with the Native American Financial Officers Association (NAFOA) to assist Native American and Alaska Native students working toward a degree within a financially related field.

Summit

Continued from B1

Muscogee (Creek) cultural activities were included at the summit to show how one can stay active. A demonstration of the men and women social stickball game was played.

"I think it was important because of the Creek people that were there," Irene Culley said. Culley helped organize the game at the summit. "Some of them may have never seen a stickball game played before."

"The summit is absolutely wonderful," summed up Gloria Moore, MCN Diabetes Program Family Therapist. "People are engaging in the different breakout sessions. Our plenary speakers are dynamic persons who have incredible and important information to share with us."

"I do think it was one of the best," Diabetes Program Managager Johnnie Brasuell said.

For more information on diabetes, please contact the MCN Diabetes Prevention and Management Program at (918) 756-3334, ext. 237.

Lowe and Beaver named NCAIED's '40 Under 40'

MCN/*Courtesy*
John Beaver and William Lowe were honored to be chosen as NCAIED's 40 Under 40.

Media Release
NCAIED

HOLLYWOOD, Fla., — On Monday, Aug. 15, 2011, the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) announced the recipients of the 2011 Native American 40 Under 40 award.

Adding to the achievements of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, tribal employees John Beaver and William Lowe have both received this honorable award in recognition of their efforts concerning the betterment of tribal endeavors as well as throughout Indian country.

The 40 Under 40 recognition "highlights 40 existing and emerging American Indian leaders under 40 years of age who have demonstrated leadership, initiative and dedication to achieve impressive and significant contributions in their business, communities and to Indian country."

Beaver serves the Nation as Director and Curator of the MCN Museum and Cultural Center, and Lowe serves as Director of the MCN Tourism and Recreation Department.

An awards ceremony held in honor of all forty recipients will be hosted by the Seminole Tribe of Florida Sept. 8, 2011. Both Beaver and Lowe are honored to have been recognized by receiving this award.

"I am honored to be selected as one of the 2011 Native American 40 Under 40 recipients by The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. More so, I am proud to receive this award as a Muscogee citizen and pleased to have the opportunity to serve as an ambassador from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Mvto to Justin Giles, Cherrah Ridge, and LaDonna and Laura Harris from Americans for Indian Opportunity for acknowledging my present and previous work and nominating me. Mvto to my wife, Kristine, for her strength, patience, and continued support," Beaver said.

"It is an honor to be selected as one of the 2011 Native American 40 Under 40 recipients by he National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. I am truly blessed to receive this award and am always proud to represent the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Mvto to Cherrah Ridge for noticing my hard work and nominating me and to my wife Jyme, my daughters Ashlyn and Jadyn who have been there to motivate me every day," Lowe said.

OBITUARIES

KENNETH CHEEK

BROKEN ARROW — Kenneth Lewis Cheek, known to his friends as "Kenny" passed away at his home in Broken Arrow June 23, 2011 at the age of 64. Kenny was born July 15, 1946 in Claremore, Okla., to John H. Cheek and Lorene (Davis) Cheek.

Kenny graduated from Weaver High School in Frederick, Okla., in 1965. He was a retired mechanic and a talented guitarist. Music and playing guitar were his passions.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Lorene Cheek and one brother, Jerry Cheek. He is survived by his father, John H. Cheek of Cromwell; Kenny's significant other, Shirley Henson of Broken Arrow; one son, Ty Henson Cheek of Broken Arrow; one daughter, Sara Cheek of Springfield, Mo.; two brothers, Andy Cheek and wife Doreen of Glenn Heights, Texas and John W. Cheek and wife Jackie of Arlington, Va.; one half brother, Johnny Joe King and wife Naomi of Cookson, Okla.; two sisters, Barbara Collins of Tulsa, and Mary Garcia of Dallas, Texas.

Funeral services for Kenny were held June 28, 2011 at the Montesoma Baptist Church, northeast of Okemah, with Rev. Jay Downing officiating. Interment followed at the Montesoma Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Parks Brothers Funeral Home of Okemah.

The family is very thankful to the Montesoma Church, as always, for the love and support they extended to the Cheek family. Through the food, fellowship and the guidance they provided, and to the pall bearers and workers at the gravesite, Mvto!

We also want to give a special thanks to the mother of Jackie Cheek, Hazel Dean Muhlenbrook, of the Seneca tribe who is always there for the family, and whose heartfelt Seneca prayer for Kenny meant so much.

ETHEL MELTON

CLAREMORE — Ethel (Hoktey) Louise Melton, 68, of Claremore, passed away Friday, June 3, 2011 at the St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Okla.

Hoktey was born Dec. 22, 1942 in Tahlequah, Okla., to Alfred P. and Polly (Francis) Frank. She attended and graduated high school at the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan., in 1960.

Ethel graduated from the Albuquerque School of Nursing as a LPN in 1961. In 1965, she married Larry Junior Melton, who preceded her in death in 1995. She also worked in Indian hospitals in Albuquerque, N.M., and Talihina, Okla. In 1973, Ethel moved to Claremore and started working at the Indian hospital there. She worked there for 22 years, before retiring in 1995.

Survivors include: one son, Richard Melton, of Claremore, Okla.; one daughter, Tina Melton, of Tulsa, Okla.; four brothers, Sam Marshall, Jr.; John Marshall; George Marshall, all three of Eufaula; and Dewayne Marshall and wife, Tammy of Welling, Okla.; two sisters, Leah Marshall, of Eufaula, Okla.; May Marshall, of Claremore, Okla.; one uncle, Cornelius McIntosh, of Oklahoma City; and two grandchildren, Jordan Melton and Emily Jungwirth.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Alfred and Polly Frank; one brother, Guymon; and three sisters, Lucille, Elouise, and Polly Ann.

A wake service was held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, June 7, 2011 at the Kelley Memorial Chapel. A funeral service was held at 1:30p.m. on Wednesday, June 8, 2011 at the Kelley Memorial Chapel with Rev. Robert Washington officiating.

Pallbearers were Justin Marshall, Jaron Marshall, Keiron Marshall, Guymon Marshall, Vernon Ahtone, and Joel Marshall. Honorary Pallbearers are Steve Marshall, Brian Ahtone, William Lowe, Eli McIntosh, and Curtis Postoak. Burial will follow at Charles Cemetery in Eufaula, Oklahoma under the directions of Hunn Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory.

HARRIETTE TIGER

EUFAULA — Harriette Tiger, 86, of Eufaula passed away Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at her home. Harriette was born on Feb. 10, 1925 in Eufaula, the daughter of Bennie Buckskin and Susie Ann (Cosar) Scott.

On Jan. 7, 1942, Harriette married Yahola Tiger, Sr. He preceded her in death on April 17, 1987. She received her GED in 1977 at the age of 52. Harriette was a lifetime member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary. She was a member of the West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church where she also worked as secretary/clerk. Harriette was a messenger to the MSW Association and worked on the Memorial Committee. She was one of the original five co-founders of the Eufaula Indian Community.

Survivors include: her sons, Yahola Tiger, Jr., of Tahlequah, Benjamin A. Tiger of Anadarko, George S. Tiger of El Reno, Jonathan Mark Tiger, and C. Mitchell Tiger both of Eufaula; a grandson, Norman Tiger of Eufaula; her daughters, Anna Louise Carson of Henryetta, Mary Nell Kaulay of Checotah, Mariena Eslick of Eufaula, Serena Brown of Indianola, Judith Pickering of Eufaula, Benita Tiger of Eufaula and Jeraldean Tiger also of Eufaula; a special cousin, Margie Charles; her sister, Samarian Herndon of Shawnee; 31 grandchildren, 39 great grandchildren and six great great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her husband, her daughter, Susan Elaine Tiger, her parents, Bennie and Susie Scott, her sisters, Benita and Susan, her brothers, B.B. Scott, Jr., Sandy Scott, Chester Scott and George Scott.

A wake service was held Sunday, June 19, 2011 at the West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Monday, June 20, 2011 at the West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church with Bryce Scott officiating.

Pallbearers were James Charles, Barnabus Grayson, Bill Bumgarner, Ronnie Johnston, Keith Duke, Woodrow Sulphur, Jr., and Randy Johnston.

Honorary pallbearers were Wayne Phillips, Sammy Thomas, Russell Barnett, John Scott, Jr., Danny Deere, Doug Reynolds, Tom Pickering, Ira Kaulay, Jr., and Allen Brown.

Burial followed at the West Eufaula Indian Cemetery under the direction of Hunn, Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association Tulsa Chapter or the West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church.

THANK YOUS

JOSEPH PIGEON

DUSTIN — We would like to express our appreciation to everyone who was there for us in our time of need. We want to thank the ladies of Faith Baptist Church for the preparation of food, Holdenville Indian Community Center, Faith Baptist Church of Dustin, Pastors Mike Anderson, Joel Tiger, Richmond Carr, Daniel Buck, Fred Bruner and all other pastors for their message of encouragement and comfort.

Also, Thank You to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services and Communications Departments for the wonderful memorial cards. We really appreciate everyone for being there with us and to those who may have sent flowers or food.

Mvto,
- Joseph Pigeon Family

SAMARION LEE JACKSON

DEWAR — We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one who offered their support, prayers, sympathy and kindness during the loss of our loved one.

A special thank you is extended to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Arbor Care Service, Cultural Preservation, Tribal Driveways and the Risk Management Office for all their assistance.

Thank you and may God bless each of those who prepared and served meals and also to the Dewar Community Center for opening your doors to our family and friends.

An exceptional thank you goes out to Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church, Ryal Community Baptist Church and to the Yardy Family. We appreciate all your support and prayers during our difficult time.

The presence and love from all her family and friends has been comforting and is very much appreciated!

MVTO!
- Samarion Lee Jackson Family

BIRTHS

BECKHAM BEAVER

TULSA — Beckham Yvkvpeyve Beaver was born April 13, 2011 to Jordan Brown and Anthony Beaver at Southcrest Hospital. Beaver weighed six pounds and seven ounces. He was 19 inches in length.

He is the grandson of Jemona Sulphur and Samuel Brown III and Leslie and Richard Powell. His great grandparents are Alice Reeder and Joe Sulphur and Lucille and Leeroy Joshua.

He is of the Beaver Clan.

MAKOTA CLARDY

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Makoto Kays Cufe Clardy was born May 20, 2011 to John and Mika Clardy. He was born at Capitol Medical Center weighing eight pounds, two ounces.

His maternal grandparents are Johnnie and Nikki Diacon and Glenn and Brenda Schnieders. His paternal grandparents are Kevin and Renee Clardy.

His maternal great-grandparents are the late Margraret Harjochee, the late Cecil Irons, the late Delmer and the late Helen Diacon and the late Arvil and Beulah Walker. His paternal great-grandparents are the late Bill and Nancy Clardy and Don Dixon and Sue Painter.

He is a member of Thloplocco Tribal Town and is of the Deer Clan.

ANOCHEE GRIFFIN

TULSA — Anochee Edward Griffin was born June 11, 2011 to Stephanie Primeaux and Thomas Griffin at Southcrest Hospital. He was three months premature and weighed one pound, 10 ounces and was 13 inches in length. He currently [at time of submission] weighs four pounds and five and a half ounces. His family is hoping to bring him home in Sept.

His maternal grandmother is Bertha Primeaux, Ricky Rouland, Blaine Wood. His paternal grandparents are Charles and Clarella Griffin. His great-grandparents are Jamima Primeaux and the late Emmert Griffin, the late Clarence and Mary Ellen Branson.

Griffin is of the Skunk Clan.

LILLIAH JANE HARJO

TULSA — Lilliah Jane Harjo was born May 23, 2011 to Brandon and Carah Harjo.

She weighed three pounds and three ounces. She was 17 inches long. Her maternal grandparents are Jemona Sulphur and Tim Harjo and Chris Harjo and Kim Lowe. Her great-grandparents are Marie Reeder, Joe Sulphur and Betsy Harjo.

She is a member of Greenleaf Ceremonial Ground and is of the Tiger Clan.

ELLIS JACKSON

TULSA — Ellis Lee Jackson was born on Feb. 27, 2011 to Brand and Mandy Jackson of Tulsa.

Her paternal grandparents are Thomas Jackson and Linda (Adams) Gaston.

LAUREN THOMPSON

WELLSTON — Lauren Liberty Thompson was born July 21, 2011 to Brandy and Reginald Thompson, Jr. She weighed six pounds and 15 ounces and 20 inches.

Paternal grandparents are Reg and Gaye Thompson. Maternal grandparents are Brenda Compelube, Scott and Karen Hanson.

She is of the Alligator Clan.

BIRTHDAYS

ALEXIS SERNA

TULSA — Alexis Renae Serna celebrated her first birthday with a party at Peter Piper Pizza in Albuquerque, N.M., on May 29, 2011.

She is the daughter of Larry and Naney Harjo Serna. Maternal grandparents are Thelma Chalakee Harjo of Arlington, Va., and Frank Harjo of Muskogee. Her great-grandparents are the late Martha Bird and Webster Chalakee of Okmulgee.

GRADUATES

TAWNA LITTLE

NORMAN—Tawna Little graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Native American Studies from the OU College of Arts and Science. Tawna was involved in many activities including being a member of the OU Rowing Team.

Little is the daughter of Karen Little and the granddaughter of Edward and Dicey Barnett.

Her tribal town is Kialegee and is of the Skunk Clan.

ALLISON RYAL

LA MIRADA, Calif.— Allison Ryal graduated from St. Joseph High School in Lakewood, Calif., on May 27, 2011.

She was a recipient of the California Scholarship Federation for maintaining a 3.67 overall GPA throughout high school. She is pursuing a degree in civil engineering. Ryal will attend Fullerton Junior College and then plans to transfer to Cal Poly Pomona.

She is the granddaughter of Elliot and Patricia Ryal.

RECOGNITION

NOAH KAULAY

MUSKOGEE — Noah Kaulay was named the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Outstanding Breaking Traditions High School Student for 2011. His award comes from the HOSA Health Careers Certification Chapter on Indian Capital Technology's Center's Muskogee campus.

Kaulay is a junior at Checotah High School and is the parliamentarian for the HOSA chapter at Muskogee. After high school, Kaulay plans to attend Bacone and major in nursing. He is the grandson of Ira Jr., and Mary Kaulay of Checotah and the great grandson of the late Harriette and Yahola Tiger.

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Thursday | Poker tournament players
Friday | Every bingo game winner
Saturday | Double Diamond promotion participants

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CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION
NEWS

Sept. 15, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 14

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"Hokkoloset vhoskes"

• Run-off election set for Nov. 5, 2011

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters (above) cast their votes at the Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center. Just over one-third of the 16,076 registered voters voted in the Principal Chief election.

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Roughly one-third of the 16,076 registered voters cast their votes for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief election on Saturday, Sept. 17.

Candidates Mike Flud and George Tiger will face a run-off in the general election set for Nov. 5, 2011.

Current Speaker of the National Council Roger Barnett and Human Development Director Louis Hicks are in the run-off for the Second Chief office.

David Hill, Creek District, was elected with over 57 percent of the votes. According to the MCN Constitution, candidates do not face a run-off election if they are elected with the majority of the votes. Muskogee District candidate Pete Beaver was unopposed and automatically declared the winner, according to the Constitution.

SEE ELECTION - A7

Glenpool Indian Community to elect officers Nov. 15

Media Release
MCN Community Development

GLENPOOL — Members of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community interested in filing for candidacy in an elected office must complete a Declaration of Candidacy Form and a Background Check Release Form by Sept. 30, 2011 with the Glenpool Creek Indian Community.

Dates for the election have changed. Any Creek citizen living within the boundaries of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community interested in becoming a member of the community may apply for membership to vote in the upcoming election by Friday, Nov. 4, 2011.

The election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 15.

For more information contact Dianna Billie at (918) 691-6006.

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town election set for Oct. 22

Media Release
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

OKEMAH — Thlopthlocco Tribal Town elections are set for Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011 at the Okfuskee County Fair Building from 8-10 a.m.

Doors will close promptly at 10 a.m., and voting will take place by standing vote only at 10:15 a.m. Voters must have a valid photo I.D., to vote.

A list of eligible voters will be posted at Thlopthlocco Tribal Town beginning Sept. 20, 2011 and published in the next newsletter.

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town will host an open campaign forum Sat., Oct. 1, 2011 at Oakes Elementary School in Okemah, Okla., (behind the MCN hospital). The forum will begin at 4:30 p.m., and friends and family are encouraged to attend.

SEE ELECTION - B4

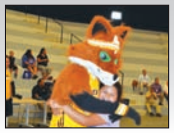
A2 LEGAL
Letters to the Editor

A3 LEGAL
Letter from the Editor

A4 VETERANS
Veterans' Scoop

A6 EDUCATION
Winner of the Lyle Deere Memorial Scholarship

A8 SPORTS
Tulsa Shock visits MCN



• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

Muscogee Nation News
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The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letters to the editor

Concerned voter raises concern of identity theft to MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — I am writing with concerns over how the election board sends out the absentee ballots. Two years ago I voiced my opinion to the election board stating my feelings about the way they are mailed back with the signature being on the outside of the envelope. Once again my feelings are raised with anxiety with the signature, the fact that identity theft is increasing and how easy it would be for some unscrupulous person to see and make a copy of my signature. The election board has told me that I am the only one that has complained about the ballots. For it to change they need to hear from hundreds to change it. I ask that you print my letter, so that we may get this changed for those that oppose the signature on the ballots. I have an idea put it on the envelope that the ballot go into instead of the big envelope.

Concerned voter,
Kindel Chevrestt

Correction to MNN article regarding CMN accredidation

OKMULGEE — Thank you for running the story about the College of the Muscogee Nation (CMN) and the accreditation process. The Faculty and Staff members are working hard to complete the process of accreditation while simultaneously conducting their regular academic and administrative duties. Accreditation is a very important process, not only for CMN, but for the students and for all of the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to understand and to know that the level of instruction being taught at CMN is among the best in the state.

In the *Muscogee Nation News* Mid-August edition there was some misinformation reported about CMN and its accreditation. The College of the Muscogee Nation is seeking accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, which is the same institution that accredits the majority of colleges and universities in Oklahoma including Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma. The College of the Muscogee Nation is in its final steps of the accreditation process and the next step is a self-study phase, which the CMN faculty and staff initiate and conduct to prepare for the next step. The self-study phase leads into a site review conducted by HLC, which includes an in depth look at all aspects of CMN from courses being taught to administrative duties. A date has been given to CMN when the site review will be conducted by HLC. The faculty and staff members are diligently preparing themselves in the self-study phase and will be ready for the site review scheduled in 2012. With that being stated, CMN cannot speculate on the progress of any other Tribal College in the State of Oklahoma and likewise none should speculate on the progress of CMN.

The College of the Muscogee Nation is currently an Associate Member of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), which is not an accrediting institution of any kind. It is the voice and representation of the 37 Tribal Colleges and Universities within the United States by providing advocacy, research, and support to its members. Upon accreditation CMN will seek full membership with AIHEC. Additionally, CMN was established in 2004.

In keeping with the educational mission of CMN, it is necessary to provide accurate information to all its constituents. Once again, thank you for all the support through the many publications and articles over the years. Momen cem vtutketv Hesaketvmese ohmerrekvs.

Respectfully,
Monte Lee Randall
CMN Dean of Student Affairs

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from June 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011 are as follows:

Traffic:

MCN v. Michael McManus	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Paige Perez	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Connie Brashears-Richardson	Operating in a manner not reasonable or proper
MCN v. Randall Osborn	No Insurance
MCN v. Ben Redfearn	No Insurance
MCN v. Ben Redfearn	Expired Tag
MCN v. Eric Sweat	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Lisa McGoy	No Insurance
MCN v. Daniel Rife	DUS
MCN v. Cynthia West	Improper Child Restraint
MCN v. James Warezak	DUS
MCN v. Misty Holmes	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Vincent Hunt	No Insurance
MCN v. Vincent Hunt	DUS
MCN v. George Frye	Expired Tag
MCN v. James Hafner	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Richard Crockett	DUS
MCN v. Christopher Yancy	Expired Tag
MCN v. Bruce Norbert	Public Intoxication

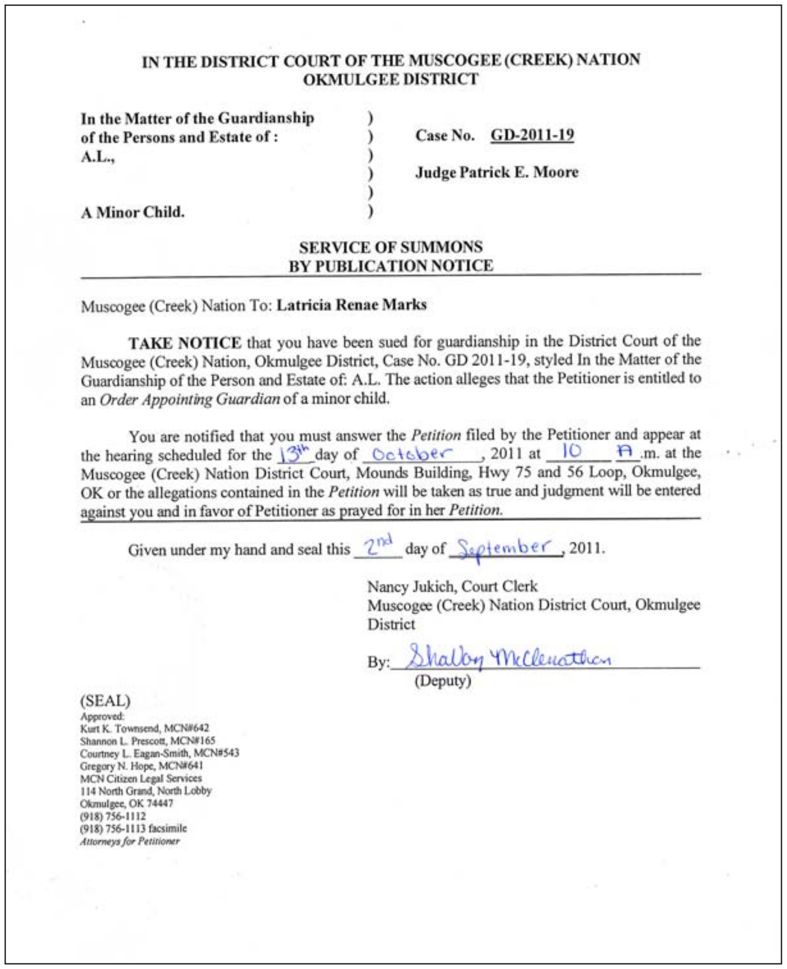
Marriage Licenses:

Roger Colbert v. Melissa Fox	Marriage License

The District Court filings from July 1, 2011 through June 31, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Judy Powell v. Lymon Yargee Jr.	Petition
Discover Bank v. Addie Carreno	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Barbara Lane	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Judy Montiel	Small Claims
Cash Finance of Tulsa v. Rebecca Mitschelen	Foreign Judgment
Loan Plus v. Mandy Fowler	Small Claims



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estate of :) Case No. GD-2011-19
A.L.,)
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)
A Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: **Latricia Renae Marks**

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD 2011-19, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: A.L. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to an *Order Appointing Guardian* of a minor child.

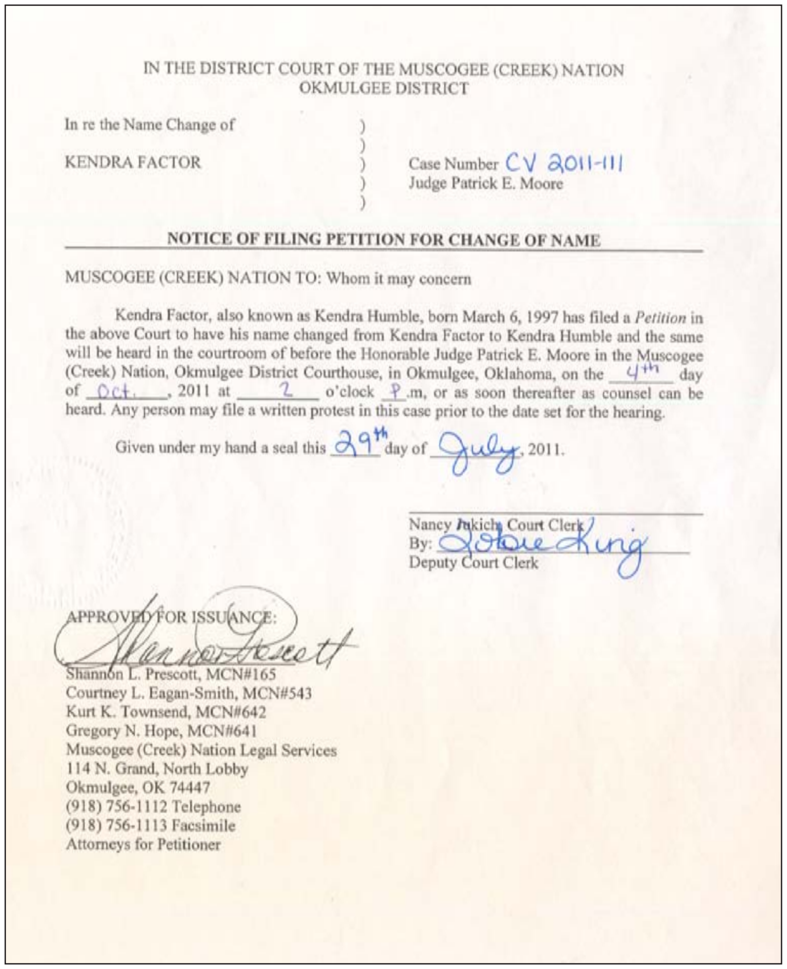
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 13th day of October, 2011 at 10 A.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mounds Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shalby McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Name Change of)
)
KENDRA FACTOR) Case Number CV 2011-111
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Kendra Factor, also known as Kendra Humble, born March 6, 1997 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Kendra Factor to Kendra Humble and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 4th day of Oct., 2011 at 2 o'clock P.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 29th day of July, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Jobie King
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:
Shannon Prescott
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
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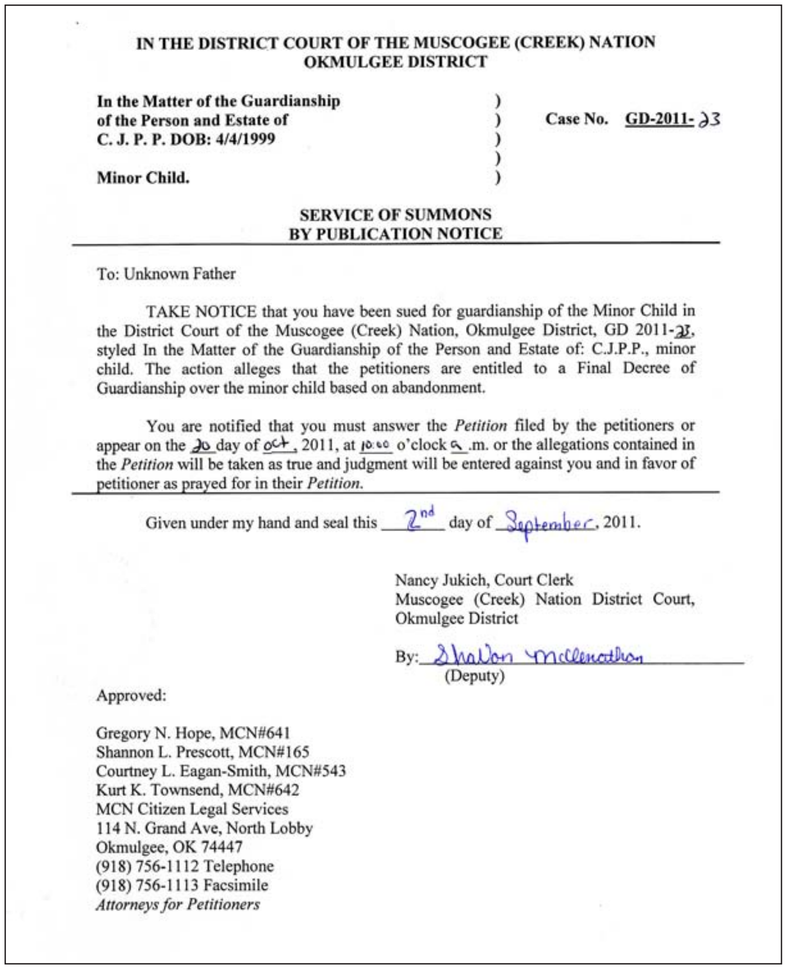
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Person and Estate of) Case No. GD-2011- 23
C. J. P. P. DOB: 4/4/1999)
)
Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Unknown Father

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2011-23, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: C.J.P.P., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioners or appear on the 20 day of oct, 2011, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in their *Petition.*

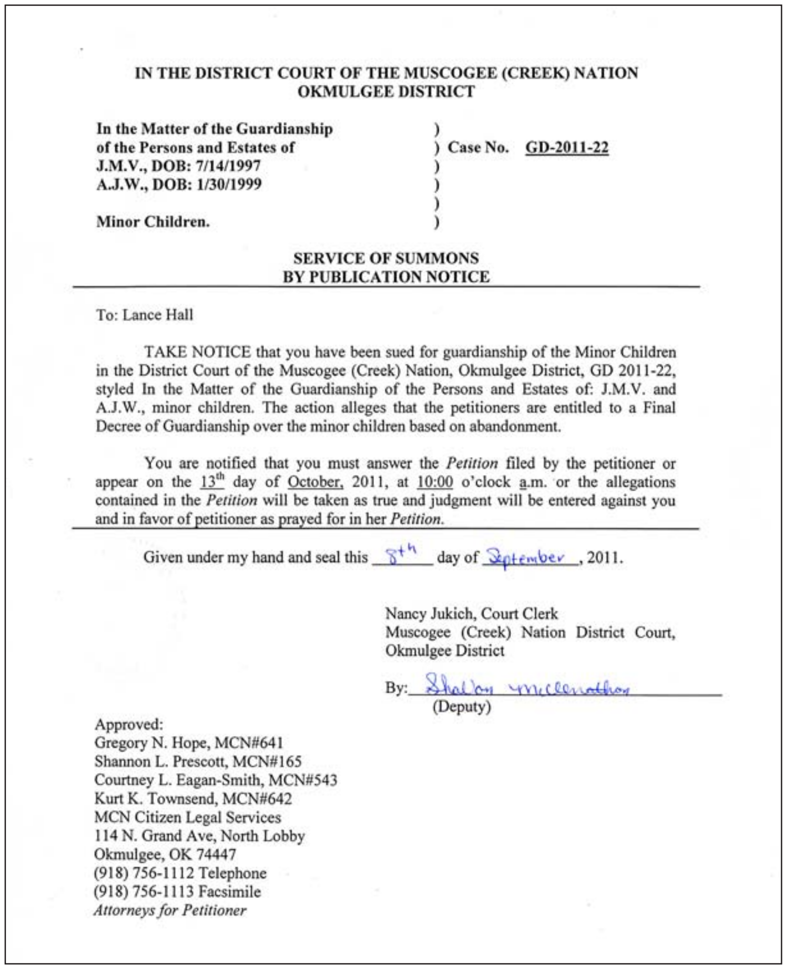
Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shalby McClenathan
(Deputy)

Approved:

Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioners



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estates of) Case No. GD-2011-22
J.M.V., DOB: 7/14/1997)
A.J.W., DOB: 1/30/1999)
)
Minor Children.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Lance Hall

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Children in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2011-22, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Persons and Estates of: J.M.V. and A.J.W., minor children. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 13th day of October, 2011, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shalby McClenathan
(Deputy)

Approved:
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Now that the ballots are cast and the runoffs are on, we will have some very important decisions to make in Nov. If you didn't make it to the polls for the primary, be sure to catch the General Election set for Nov. 5.

I want to respond to a question posed regarding our coverage of the election thus far. Is featuring candidate profiles in tribal media (MNN or Native News Today) breaking tribal law (MCNCA Title 37, § 6-106)?

The law states, "Any person who uses or causes to be used any equipment, supplies or other property of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, its agencies, authorities or boards, for political campaign purposes to support any candidate, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor . . ."

Is sharing information about candidates considered campaigning? I'm no lawyer but I must follow the law and my interpretation of such, which is no, it's not.

I can fathom no better use of a communications budget than for informing and educating people. We're not "supporting" any candidate but fulfilling our obligation as responsible media practitioners to share factual information regarding all the candidates, allowing citizens make informed decisions when it comes to electing their tribal officials. I'll go to court any day with this argument.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7720 or email me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop:

Veteran ride set for Oct.14

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

OKMULGEE — VASO will be hosting a Muscogee veteran motorcycle ride on Friday, Oct. 14, 2011 at 5 p.m.

We will assemble at 1500 at the Veterans Building. From the Veterans Building, in formation we will be traveling to the 5 and Diner restaurant in Tulsa.

After dinner, we will then travel to the Admiral Twin Drive-In theater for a movie. Muscogee Veteran motorcycle riders are allowed to bring one guest but the guest must ride with the veteran.

VASO will pay for the dinner and the movie. Please call Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739 to confirm your participation.

The Veterans' Scoop features articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Muscogee Veterans' Pass-in-Review set for Nov. 10

MNN/*Starla Bush*

Muscogee veterans will gather for a Pass-in-Review in honor of Veteran's Day to honor Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and the newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

OKMULGEE — This year in celebration of Veteran's Day, we will conduct a Pass-in-Review march as is the same with the United States of America Nov. 10, 2011.

The newly-elected and outgoing President is granted the honor of having the United States military Pass-in-Review. We are no different.

The purpose of a Pass-in-Review is to honor the elected civilian leadership and to confirm to all, the military is under command and control of the civilian officials.

We will conduct a Pass-in-Review to honor Principal Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, and our newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

The order of march will be Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps.

We plan on casting 400 commemorative coins to be given to participating Muscogee veterans after the march. The coins will have the Muscogee (Creek) seal and Veterans Office.

Coins numbers 1/400 will be given to Principal Chief Ellis, coin 2/400 will be given to Second Chief Berryhill, 399/400 will be given to the newly elected Second Chief and 400/400 will be given to the newly-elected Principal Chief.

The symbolism of these coins' numbers to our chiefs is to confirm the military is within command and control of our civilian officials.

We will assemble at 10 a.m. Nov. 10, 2011 at the Veterans Building where we will form and rehearse until 12 p.m. Chow is from 12-1 p.m. From 1-2 p.m., we will conduct a dry run and last minute adjustments. At 2 p.m., we will conduct a Pass-in-Review, which will be from VASO to the east of the Mound Building.

Please contact VASO your commemorative coin may be reserved. In closing, we march once every four years to honor the peaceful transition of power in our tribe; it should be honored and will be protected and recognized by us, the veterans of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

God bless our Muscogee Veterans, our Muscogee (Creek) Nation and our continued peaceful political process.

Claims Filing Assistance

in the $760 million Keepseagle Indian Farmer/Rancher Settlement

DATE: September 20-22, 2011
TIME: Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Holiday Inn Hotel
700 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, AR

DATE: September 20-22, 2011
TIME: Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Choctaw Nation
Grant Casino
Firehouse Grill Meeting Area
Hugo, OK

What is this About?

The class action settles claims that the USDA discriminated against Native American farmers and ranchers seeking farm loans or loan servicing.

Who is Included?

The Settlement includes:

- Native American farmers who:
  - Farmed or ranched (or attempted to) any time from 1981 to late 1999.
  - Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA.
  - Complained about discrimination to the USDA either directly or through a representative.
- Heirs of the above.

How Much Money Can I Get?

You may be eligible for a payment of up to $50,000 or more and full or partial loan forgiveness.

To receive a payment,
you must file a claim by December 27, 2011

To get help in filing a claim,
attend a meeting or call: 1-888-233-5506
or visit: www.IndianFarmClass.com

Emvponayv

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — President Barack Obama is promoting his legislative solution to some of America's economic woes, and has included some of Native America's as well. His plan would make tax cuts to benefit over 20,000 Native American-owned small businesses. Now, how would the White House know there are 20,000 Native American owned businesses? One of the bill's provisions is an extension of unemployment insurance. I'm sure an unemployment extension would be great news to a lot of us (including this guy who depended on that check.)

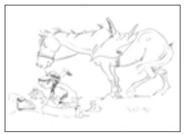
On the law and order front, about 150 American Indian tribes are due for a share of nearly $120 million in federal funds to improve safety on reservations, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. How about us in Oklahoma, (remember, no reservations)? The grants are intended to help tribes deal with soaring crime rates and issues of justice and enforcement. There is $118.4 million in grant money meant to help tribes, battle drugs, prevent violence against women, elder abuse, and provide youth programs. These are old problems. Let's hope the new money can make a dent in them.

Hey, here's a reminder that Nov., is National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. I plan to fly my Muscogee (Creek) Nation flag.

The new movie version of the 'Lone Ranger' has been cancelled. The big-screen adaptation of "The Lone Ranger" starring Johnny Depp has been shot down. According to a source close to the production, the film would cost too much to make. This one was supposed to have a plot line that involved werewolves and the Native American occult. Maybe they just couldn't afford the silver bullets that the Ranger used. Just the thing to use on werewolves, right? Have you seen the price of silver these days? Tonto used to be quite a hero when I was a little 'Indin' guy. (Bless you, Jay Silverheels.) I guess we won't get to hear Depp say "Kemo Sabe" or "Get'em up, Scout." I was looking forward to hearing Depp's version of the bulk of Tonto's dialogue, and to see him get sent into town to do all the work for the ol' LR. Anybody else remember any of this? I guess you have to be kinda old to remember this TV show. It was in black and white, kiddies! Hiyo Silver, Away!

Now, to a really important item of news! The city of Gallup, NM, now holds the Guinness World Record for the largest Navajo taco. The taco was more than 10 feet in diameter. It was created with 150 pieces of fry bread and included 65 pounds of ground beef, 65 pounds of beans, 50 pounds of lettuce, 90 pounds of cheese and more than 30 pounds of green chile. Can you imagine how many women it took to make the frybread? I saw a picture of it, and there was some white guy on a bucket truck's boom sprinkling on tomatoes and salsa. Surrounding it were about 1,000 hungry Indians, drooling and I'll bet they were saying, "Hurry Up!"

Can you imagine if this becomes a popular item around Indian country? I can see some guy going up to a pow-wow concession stand and saying, "Give me the 10-foot Indian taco, and a lot of napkins!" By the way, when did the Guinness Book of Records start recording the size of Indian tacos? Boy, have I been missing out. There goes my cholesterol!



Wiegmann receives Lyle Deere Memorial Scholarship

Media Release
Deere Memorial Scholarship Committee

PONCA CITY — Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Committee (OTTC) President, Jeffrey Lieb (Ponca Tribe), presented the Lyle Deere Memorial Scholarship to University of Oklahoma student, Devin Wiegmann, Aug. 23, 2011.

Wiegmann is a junior majoring in chemical engineering, of Kiowa and Choctaw descent, and attends Mary Lee Clark UMC in Oklahoma City. His plans are to continue his education and earn his doctorate in biomedical engineering so he can design prosthetics. His parents are John and Shaun Wiegmann.

Photo courtesy/*Joyce Deere*

Pictured above (L to R) are: Liz (Long) Reeder, Joyce C. Deere (widow), Devin Wiegmann, Lisa Deere, and Johnnie (Chalakee) Greene.

The Lyle Deere Memorial Scholarship was established by the OTTC in honor of full-blood Muscogee (Creek) citizen Lyle K. Deere who was employed as the Transportation Planner for the Osage Nation at the time of his death.

Graduation Gear Up: Know your academic background

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Congratulations to the graduating class of 2012. In just eight short months, a chapter of your life will close and a new one will begin. As you prepare for the end of your high school career, the MNN will be offering high school and/or parents/guardians preparation tips. Be sure and always check with your high school guidance counselor, trusted teacher, or college admission officer(s) to make sure you are meeting deadlines and requirements.

To begin this segment, take a look at your past and know where you are headed. The end goal you should have in mind is to graduate with a high school diploma or GED certificate. The following three questions can help you prepare: Will I graduate in May? Where do I stand, academically? What's my plan for college?

"Will I graduate in May?"

This may seem like a pointless question to ask but some seniors find out almost too late that they lack a half credit or more to graduate. Check with your counselor to ensure that you are a prepared and on track to graduate. Students enrolled in the Oklahoma High Learning Access Program (OHLAP) should check with their school counselor to make sure they are meeting the requirements for that specific scholarship. Students in grades 8-10 may be eligible for this program. For more information, check out the Oklahoma Higher Education website www.okhighered.org

"Where do I stand academically?"

An item needed for the rest of your high school career is an official copy of your high school transcript. On your transcript, you will find high school class ranking, grade-point average (GPA), letter grades earned, test scores, classes and transfer credits, if applicable. It is important to know this information because it should be listed on your personal resume as well as any admission or scholarship applications. Information on resume building will be offered in a later article.

"What's my plan for college?"

"I have a plan for college. What's yours?" I always remember that line from the television commercial for some reason. What is your plan after high school? If college is not your immediate plan, then that is OK. Be sure to explore other options and other career interests you may have.

Ask your counselor for a career aptitude test or ask to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test(ASVAB). According to their website, it is a free test that measures strengths, weaknesses and potential future successes. Do note that it is not a recruiting tool for the military. When I took the test, one of my occupations could have been one of the people who jumped out of the plane with the cargo and ensuring it landed safely at the target. I think they saw me as expendable.

I know the school year just started but to you, the graduating senior and your parents/guardians, this year will seem like a never-ending period of deadlines. They will come fast but hopefully you can be ready for them.

School Clothing applications accepted through Oct. 7

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, is now accepting applications for school clothing.

Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of Oct. 7, 2011 at 5 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek citizen students, no matter where they live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program are as follows:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least three years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a day care) or be four years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade.

All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application.

Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.

- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.
- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per household. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of $200. (Example: If you received $400 and turned in receipts that only totaled $350, you will be eligible to receive $200). Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for $200.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.
- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center
- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center
- You may download the application at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov
- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you

All applications must be returned or mailed to:

School Clothing Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

The MCN Green Report: Environmental updates in Indian country

Media Release
MCN Office of Environmental Services

OKMULGEE — The MCN Office of Environmental Services is now sharing current events and news on the environmental front in Indian country as part of a monthly column in the MNN.

The office will share ideas, tips and facts that may help increase knowledge of conservation and stewardship of our natural world. The environmental and natural resources field covers a vast array issues, and topics of interest. There is air, surface water, groundwater, wetlands, climate, waste, recycling, energy, alternative energy, sustainability, wildlife, and endangered species (plants, fins, feather and fur).

The MCN OES utilizes U.S. EPA grants to fund a portion of work; for instance, the Tribal General Assistance Program (GAP) is used to assist tribes build environmental capacity. We also use a Clean Water Act, Section 106 grant to fund our ongoing stream monitoring program.

U.S. EPA, Region 6, located in Dallas, Texas is the EPA region that works with the tribes of Okla., N.M., Texas, and La. Ark., is also in EPA Region 6, but there are no tribes located there. Occasionally, this column will feature news from our Region 6 tribal neighbors. The EPA funded programs provide this avenue for the MCN OES to present educational outreach and news on environmental issues.

On a muggy August day, it's in the upper 90s, a cool down from July. The summer of 2011 will definitely be seared into record books as one of the hottest. In fact, the Oklahoma July 2011 was the hottest July in the lower 48; the hottest July of any state since records were first recorded in 1895. That's a hot July! June weather was more like a hot, breezy Sept. It was not the typical June, rainy and muggy. With the extraordinarily hot weather came a few extraordinary circumstances.

Around Muscogee Country, many ponds suffered from a prolonged increase in water temperature. That in turn, stressed the fish. As many anglers know, fish require a specific range of water temperature for optimal health. Native Okla., fish; like shad, carp, bass and catfish species require a temperature range from approximately 50-90 degrees for the lower and upper temperature boundaries. Temperature requirements vary among species and even within fish families, but generally, the mid-range boundaries are best for healthy fish. They can handle water temperatures at the upper boundary for a short time, but prolonged high water temperatures can cause a fish kill.

This happened in many ponds around the Muscogee Nation during June, and by July many ponds were dry, or near dry. It happened twice at the pond in Honor Heights Park in Muskogee, Okla. To say the least, this unusually hot summer has taken a toll on vegetation, livestock, wildlife, pets and humans.

Most have seen ponds in parks or golf courses that appear well maintained. These are ponds where the grass is mowed up to the shoreline. The tidy, well maintained appearance is deceiving. When the aquatic vegetation is removed, it creates conditions that hinder the pond's ability to recover from short periods of distress.

Prolonged heat is a stressor to the aquatic system. The littoral zone of a pond or lake is the region defined between the upper dry land, on past the shoreline into the shallow water. This is the area where aquatic vegetation grows naturally. Aquatic vegetation, like cattails, rushes and sedges have many benefits to the aquatic environment.

Shoreline vegetation is a microhabitat for insects, and benthic macroinvertebrates that serve as food for fish. Benthic macroinvertebrates are the larval stage of aquatic insects. The vegetation provides habitat for some species of fish, and provides shade, which in turn keeps the littoral zone of the water cooler on hot days. There are other benefits as well. The roots of aquatic plants bind soil, which decrease shoreline erosion.

Controlling bank erosion improves water clarity. Aquatic plants also decrease the amount of pollutants carried in non-point source pollution from entering the pond water. The same is true for streams. Certain plants, like bulrushes, can absorb and break down chemicals or nutrients, like phosphorus and nitrogen.

Algae thrives with an over abundance of sun and nutrients, which depletes the dissolved oxygen in the water. The fish, of course, need dissolved oxygen for respiration. While there are other factors that can affect dissolved oxygen, simply put, water temperature affects the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water. The higher the temperature of the water the lower the dissolved oxygen will be. So the extremely hot weather has a double whammy adverse effect on aquatic environments.

Humans can't control the temperature outside, but armed with a little knowledge they can help the natural environment decrease the damage that occurs in response to adverse conditions.

Dragonflies and damselflies flitting between cattails, water striders and other life can be an indicators of a healthy pond or lake. Are their minnows swimming? Shad? Sunfish? All of these bits of nature are part of the cycle of life that functions in a healthy aquatic ecosystem.

Election

Continued from A1

McIntosh District incumbents Selina Jayne-Dornan and Darrell Proctor will face each other along with Okmulgee Council members James Jennings and current Seat A candidate, David Nichols.

Tukvpvtce Seat A holder, Shirlene Ade and James McGirt are in the runoff. Robert Huff and Lucian Tiger III will run against each other for the Tulsa District. New candidates Franklin Coachman and Mitch Jack are in the run-off for Okfuskee District. Incumbent Johnnie Greene is running against Mark Randolph for Wagoner District.

The National Council will be reduced to 16 seats after the 2013 election. At that time, all eight districts will have two representatives.

The General Election will be held Nov. 5. Absentee ballots will be mailed out on Oct. 17. New eligible voters can still vote in the Nov. 5 General Election but must cast their vote at a precinct within the tribal nation. Precinct registration opens Sept. 22 and closes Oct. 26.

All election results are unofficial until 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 23.

For more information, please contact the MCN Election Board at (918) 732-7684.

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- **Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.**
- **Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.**
- **Live within the State of Oklahoma.**
- **Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.**
- **Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.**
- **Be 18 years or older.**
- **Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.**
- **Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.**
- **Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.**

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

“Big Mike Da Legend” makes his mark on MMA

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — Throughout the world there are mixed martial arts fighters, and here in Indian country, it is no different. Mike Harrison from Muskogee, Okla., also known as “Big Mike Da Legend” has made his mark in the fight world.

Photo courtesy/Mike Harrison

Harrison, now living in Tulsa, is a boxer turned MMA fighter competing with the Xtreme Fighting League or XFL, which is based out of the same area.

Harrison has been fighting for over 10 years in boxing and started in MMA five years ago. Before fighting in MMA, Harrison fought in amateur boxing tournaments and numerous Toughman competitions for a combined record of 38 wins to five losses.

“Nothing is different from these two sports.” Said Harrison. “Getting ready for the fight is the same. It used to be, for me, to go in the ring and knock the other guy’s head off. Now it is more of a chess match. You see what your opponent can do and you figure out how to beat them.”

Both boxing and MMA have taken Harrison to other parts of the country to live, train and fight. He found his love for MMA when living in N.M., and called a gym to see if he could work out.

The facility turned out to be one of the most respected MMA gyms in the country. Jackson’s Submission Fighting in Albuquerque, N.M., also boasts one of the greatest coaches in MMA, Greg Jackson.

Although his first fight in MMA wasn’t ideal, he knew soon the victories would come. Harrison talked about what he feels when he steps into the ring or cage before a fight.

“My first fight in MMA was a split-decision loss. When we were standing up, I was beating him and boxing with him, but when taken to the ground, my wrestling was not that good and that is where he was beating me and eventually won the match,” said Harrison.

“When I’m fixing to fight, my whole body is shaking. You cannot tell I’m shaking. The crowd sees me bouncing around like I am ready to fight but deep down inside myself, I’m scared. Until that first punch is thrown, he hits me and I hit him, that is when I know that I’m okay and if you ever experience tunnel vision, where you look and you only see your target, that is what I’m in after the first punch is out of the way.”

Harrison, hopes to be fighting in an MMA match soon, but said if he returns to boxing, he wants a shot at Kimbo Slice.

Slice, whose real name is Kevin Ferguson, is known throughout the Internet for his street fighting on sites such as Youtube. He has fought in MMA organizations such as EliteXC and UFC recently claimed a victory in boxing in Miami, Okla.

Despite Ferguson’s accomplishments, and reputation, Harrison is confident he can give Slice his first loss in boxing.

“That fight with Kimbo (Ferguson), I wanted that fight because I feel that I am a little more seasoned than him and would have beat him. I have the confidence in my boxing that I would have the win.”

Even though Harrison is a fighter you would be surprised that he does not consider himself quite so serious in the ring (or cage). Harrison said he sees himself more as a comedian.

After the gloves are off, Harrison puts on the hats of gardener, mechanic, and founder and leader of his Drum Group called “Creminole Stylez.”

“I do not want to be lazy in life,” said Harrison. “If I needed my car fixed, I had to learn how because I could not afford these top mechanics. With the drum group, I started this three years ago because everyone was playing hip-hop all the time, and I wanted our Native youth and all Natives to hear the drum again. All the members are Creek and Seminole and that is how I thought of our name.”

Tulsa WNBA team “Shocks” Native youth

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — On Aug. 16, Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and local residents of Okmulgee were treated with an appearance of special guests at the Multi-Purpose Dome on the Claude Cox Omniplex. WNBA team, the Tulsa Shock, made the 30-minute trip south to host a basketball camp and public practice.

Over 70 kids participated in basketball clinic hosted by Shanna Zolman and the Shock Basketball Academy. Children ages 4 – 16 were taught the fundamentals of basketball, including how to shoot properly, dribble and pass.

“We are excited to bring the Tulsa Shock traveling practice to our new multi-purpose building located at the Claude Cox Omniplex and introduce WNBA professional basketball to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,” said Principal Chief A.D. Ellis. “In addition, this is another activity in our commitment to the youth of Muscogee (Creek) Nation.”

Fans were also invited to observe members of the Tulsa Shock as the warmed up and held an open team practice. Those in attendance were able to see how the WNBA team prepares for a tough and grueling season.

“This is a great opportunity to showcase our basketball team, organization and incredible product within the state of Oklahoma,” Shock President Steve Swetoha said. “In addition to being Tulsa’s team, we look forward in growing our reach amongst the many Native American groups all throughout the state of Oklahoma.”

After the practice, Tulsa Shock mascot “Volt” performed for the fans. He interacted with the fans throughout the event with a dance-off, tug-of-war, and an aerial display of dunks.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above are participants in a tug-of-war as part of the youth events during the Tulsa Shock traveling practice held at the Omniplex Dome in Aug.

SECTION B

FEATURES

Sept. 15, 2011 edition

Prayer and reflection on 9/11

• American Indian leaders attend prayer meeting

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Mayor of Eufaula, Okla., Selina Jayne-Dornan, along with her husband, Jim, sing at the Awakening America Alliance prayer meeting. Dornan and other American Indians gathered to pray for America and in rememberance of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

SHAWNEE — It had been ten years since Selina Jayne-Dornan heard the terrible news.

It was early on the morning of Sept. 11 and she was driving to work when she heard reports of a plane hitting the World Trade Centers.

“It put a lot of fear in people’s hearts,” Dornan recalled. “That’s the one thing I remember, how solemn everyone was and the fear. It was a strange day.”

Even after a decade, she still remembers that day more vividly than any other.

Dornan, a Muscogee (Creek) member and the mayor of Eufaula was invited to speak at the Awakening America Alliance meeting in Shawnee. The meeting was held on Sept. 11, coinciding with the tenth anniversary of the attacks at the World Trade Centers, the Pentagon and a field near Shanksville, Pa.

Along with her husband Jim, the two sang for the small congregation that gathered to pray for America at the Nagawee United Indian Methodist Church. Across the country and in several U.S. territories, similar meetings were taking place.

At the closing of her speech, Dornan asked the crowd to rise and recite the Lord’s Prayer with her. Dornan spoke about prayer and how the reality of Sept. 11 has shaped her as a leader.

“That’s where I put my faith in God because I know now as a leader, that I have to be strong.”

Faith also helped Dornan accept the reality of the attacks on Sept. 11.

“In a time of uncertainty when there was nothing else to grasp or hold on to, there was prayer. I think that’s what got me through it,” Dornan said.

Cathy Meyers, Pottawatomie County Prayer Coordinator for Awakening America Alliance, was pleased with the turn out. “I was really impressed,” Meyers said. Awakening America Alliance was created after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Preparing for the future

Assistant Chief of the Seminole Nation, Ella Colman, was with family when she received notice about the Sept. 11 attacks. Colman also spoke at the Awakening America Alliance meeting.

SEE PRAYER - B5

Sapulpa Indian Community to elect officers Dec. 5

Media Release
Sapulpa Creek Indian Community

SAPULPA — Any Creek citizen living within the boundaries of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in becoming a member of the community may apply for membership to vote in the upcoming election by Nov. 18, 2011.

Members of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in filing for candidacy in an elected office may be subject to a Background Check and drug testing with the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community.

Registered members are also encouraged to update their contact information at this time.

The election will be held Monday, Dec. 5, 2011.

For more information contact Wanda Weaver at (918) 645-7772 or the Sapulpa Indian Community Center at (918) 227-9627.

Tourism and Recreation to host annual Council Oak

Media Release
Tourism and Recreation Department

TULSA — The annual Council Oak ceremony is schedule for Oct. 22, 2011. This year, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism and Recreation Department will be hosting the event.

“Tourism and Recreation is very excited to be a part of this special event,” Director William Lowe said.

This is the first year Lowe and his office will be responsible for the overall logistics and coordination of the annual event.

The historic council oak tree is located at 18th and Cheyenne in downtown Tulsa.

Tourism and Recreation is still seeking volunteers to help with the ceremony. More information will be provided at a later date.

Any other inquiries, please contact the MCN Tourism and Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992

B2 HISTORY

And Still the Waters Run: *Around the Sacred Fire*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Concharty United Methodist Church Gospel Singing

B4 CULTURE

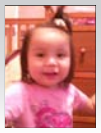
MCN Museum update

B5 SPOTLIGHT

Creek employee receives award

B7 PEOPLE

Birthday: Taniya Tecumseh



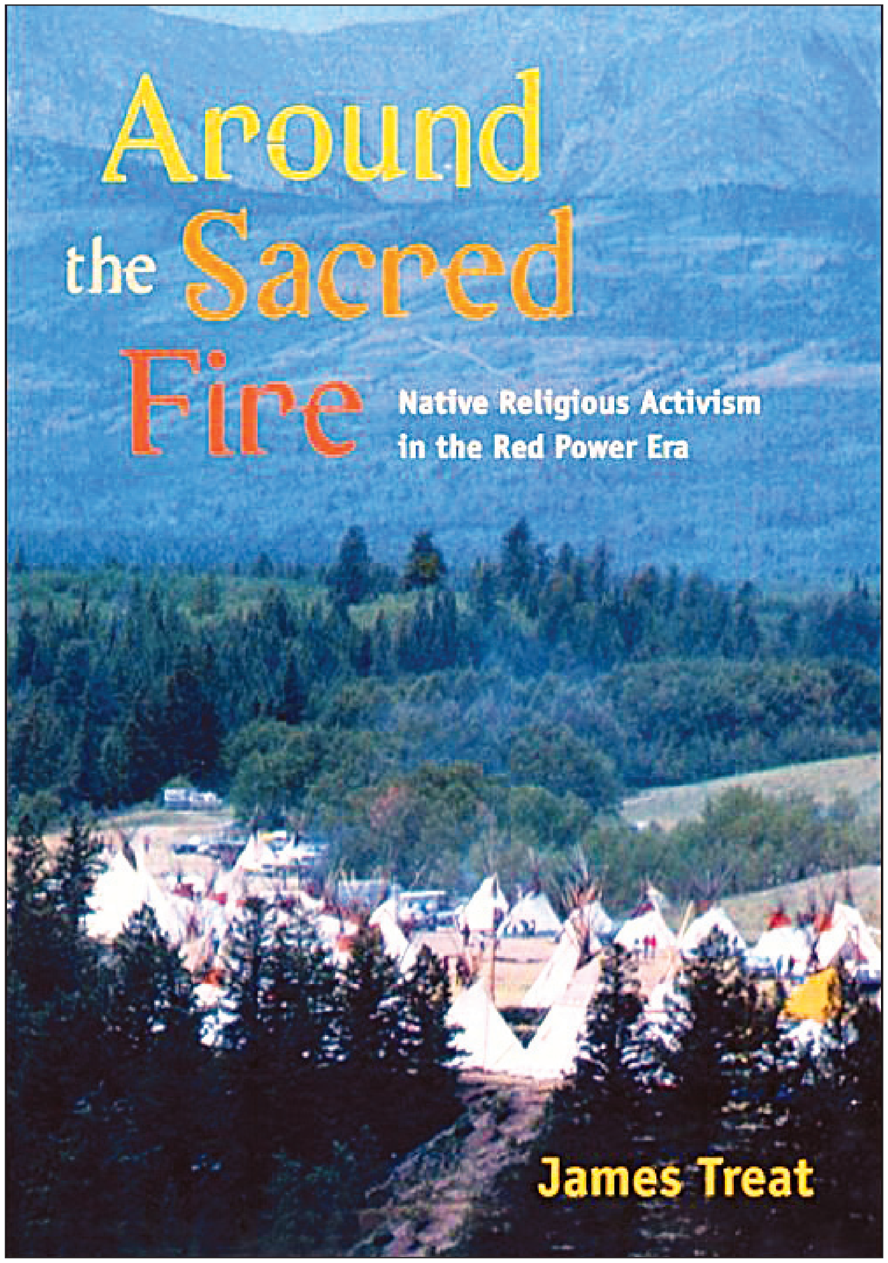
And Still the Waters Run: *Around the Sacred Fire*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — *"The most prominent feature of the conference. . . which emerged clearly to nearly everyone's surprise and pleasure. . . was the unanimity of purpose and thought of the delegates. Everyone agreed modern Indian religious life must be a furthering of the historic continuity of time-honored Indian values/ philosophical concerns; that both modern Indian ceremonies and Indian Christianity must be part of that community; and that both Native ceremonials and Indian Christianity can be mutually supportive or parallel and cooperative or integrated, according to the desire of the particular tribe involved."*

This month my column takes a different twist, in that it becomes a book review, a critique of a read I highly recommend to all. I speak of "Around the Sacred Fire," authored by our own James Treat; who currently writes a column in the Muscogee Nation News. "Sacred Fire" recently came into my hands. I lost much sleep as I delved deeply into a message still very relevant today.

It's been fun reviewing the work of a fellow MNN contributor. Let me offer up a comparison to our writing abilities. As I often do, in my role as a seasoned elder, I try to let my ideas flow as a refreshing dram of milk. Mr. Treat on the other hand, a younger academically trained Creek, delivers the all-important meat to the fire, It's the analogy of milk before meat which is often advised.



I acknowledge up front, you will have to invest time in this read. You may find it necessary to read a chapter twice (chapter two is a good example). The wealthy of information, the integrity of research, is found in every paragraph, I am an old dog and yet I learned many new things in the details of a story I thought I knew. I love a good read, especially as I discover the complexities of a movement, in a remarkable time, a true celebration in escaping supreme directional control.

Harold Cardinal was a leader in the new ecumenical movement. He would write; "The white man is a paradox, he believes in the concept of unity. He believes in a God and adheres to a monotheistic religion. Yet… in the one area where he could exemplify unity… he is ridiculously fragmented. " Alluding to the discussions under way concerning denominational merger (in Canada), Carnival asserted that the Indian was the first member of the ecumenical movement. He was most willing to accept the white missionary's message of love, because it came as a complement rather than a contradiction to the Indian way of life. Carnival's book, The Unjust Society, blended well with a popular contemporaneous work, Custer Died For Your Sins. Both were hard hitting critiques by young activists, the first major publications of two authors who would become leading native political voices of their countries and generation. Published simultaneous in the fall of 1969, they testified to the uniformity of western colonialism, the resilience of tribal communities, and the fidelity of those particular literacy representations.

"The fall of 1969 was a beautiful season in Indian country, producing a harvest of controversy and hope. A small group of native leaders opted to cross a troublesome frontier in the land. The strategy addressed a primal need for personal connection, a disposition with deep roots in the human psyche." A decade of strife amid growth was just beginning.

A few times in my life I've made the effort to get out of bed (stayed up all night) and join the sidewalk hordes watching the famed Rose Bowl parade. Hungry, cold and bleary-eyed, I sat on the curb and watched the spectacle, Never once did I ever consider riding in the same, though I had a "in" with someone who had a serious float connection to the event. It was the same with Red Power, I watched from the sidewalk, but never considering joining the fray. Vine Deloria Jr., in Custer Died for Your Sins, suggested that of all the Native tribes, the Muscogee Creek Nation had the best chance of surviving with a form of Christianity, while implementing the goals of the Indian Ecumenical Conference. It is an interesting thought and appears to be validated, as the decades roll on.

Forest Carter, in his book, THE EDUCATION OF LITTLE TREE, suggests the following: "Gramma (Cherokee) says when you come upon something good, first thing to do is share it with whoever you can find; that way, good spreads out, where no telling it will go - which is right." I try to do just that, via my column in the Muscogee Nation News. Thus this rare (but positive) critique.

AROUND THE SACRED FIRE was published by the Univ. of Illinois Press in 2008, and is available for electronic purchase.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Okmulgee CASA in-house training set for Sept. 26

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation CASA has recently introduced an independent study option that makes it easier to train from home in order to become a court appointed special advocate for abused and neglected children. Each CASA advocate will be assigned a trainer and supervisor to walk them through the process.

Okmulgee CASA will also have in-house training beginning Sept. 26 at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Nancy Hancock at (918) 756-2549 or email casaokm8@sbc.global.net

Concharty Gospel Singing set for Sept. 24

OKMULGEE — Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee, will host a gospel singing Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m., and singing will begin at 6:30 p.m.

All singing groups welcome and encouraged to attend. Join us for an evening of praise, good food and fellowship.

For more information, please call. (918) 366-8450 or visit the website at: www.kvncate.com

Dwight Mission School reunion

VIAN — The Dwight Mission School reunion will be held on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011. Registration is from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. and there will be a free lunch at noon.

For more information, please contact the chairperson at (918) 773-3096.

Rural Youth Loan Programs

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative in cooperation with Farm Service Agency, Okmulgee presents a free workshop on Sept. 27, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., at the MFSI office located at 100 E. 7th St., Suite 101 in downtown Okmulgee.

Youth applicants between 10-20 years of age may apply. USDA Farm Service (FSA) staff will be on site to process applications. Loans can be made up to $5,000 for farm/ranch/agricultural related project and application must have endorsement of FFA, 4-H or similar organization to monitor project process.

Pick up an application at the MFSI office. Please RSVP to the event by calling (918) 756-5915 or (918) 752-6139.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Assistance Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Assistance Program is still taking applications until Oct. 7, at 5:00 p.m.

Students must be three years old and enrolled in a certified head start or be four years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, pre-K through the 12th grade. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible.

For more information, please call the MCN School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or 800-482-1979, ext. 2473.

Tulsa State Far

TULSA — The Tulsa State Fair will be held Sept. 29 - Oct. 9.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will have an information booth with brochures and information available for anyone interested.

For more information, contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Public Relations at (918) 732-7613.

Grocery Bingo and Food Sale

HOLDENVILLE — A grocery bingo and food sale will be held on Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Holdenville Creek Indian Community Center. The center is located at 224 E. Poplar in Holdenville. The benefit is for Kenneth Brown. The bingo starts at 1 p.m. and the food sale will begin at 10 a.m.

RIP Coat Drive

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program is hosting their first annual coat drive. They are still taking donations of new or gently used coats. Donations can be dropped off at the MCN Reintegration program or arrangements can be made to have them picked up.

For more information, please contact Becky Bilingsly at (800) 259-1059 or (918) 652-2676.

Fall Gospel Singing

OKEMAH —Springfield United Methodist Church is hosting a Fall Gospel Singing on Oct. 8, 2011 at 7 p.m. The Master of Ceremonies will be Rev. David Little. There will be a food sale, as well. For more information, please call (405) 452-3378.

Concharty Fish Fry and Flea Market

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee, will host a Fish Fry and flea market at the Twin Hills Creek Indian Community Center.

The flea market will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the fish fry will be held from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Concharty UMC's general fund.

The Twin Hills Community Center is located at the intersection of Highway 16 and 52.

For more information, please call. (918) 366-8450 or visit the website at: www.kvncate.com

Concharty Annual Fall Festival

OKMULGEE — Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee, will host a free carnival with games, food and fun for the whole family on Oct. 29, 2011.

Activities begin at 4 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

For more information, please call. (918) 366-8450 or visit the website at: www.kvncate.com

Tulsa Community to host officer elections Sept. 22

TULSA — The Tulsa Creek Indian Community will be conducting officer elections for the upcoming year.

Sept. 22, 2011 a special TCIC Community meeting will being at 6 p.m. for Election to fill vacancies of the TCIC Board of Directors: chairman and treasurer. Meeting will adjourn immediately after voting is complete.

Sept. 22, 2011 a regular meeting will commence beginning at 7 p.m. The election for the TCIC Business Board may then be conducted.

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES NAVY VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans the VASO will be hosting

"MOVIE NIGHT"
Thursday, 13 October 2011

To Celebrate
The Birth Month Of The Navy (13 October 1775)

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 13 October 2011
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **"U-571" (with Bill Paxton, Matthew McConaughey & Harvey Keitel)**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Free! (Navy Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest)
- Muscogee Navy Veterans are allowed to bring one adult guest. (Please limit to only one adult guest)
- "MOVIE NIGHT" is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one adult guest)
- Any questions call Delana Bear-Hicks at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7744

Coca-Cola
Diet Coke
Coca-Cola
Sweetened with Splenda

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum and Cultural Center update

Betty Gerber, Ed. D.
MCN Museum and Cultural Center

OKMULGEE — Acting as stewards of our culture, the 2007 National Council of the Muscogee-Creek Nation passed Resolution NCA 07-101 because they had the foresight and recognized the need for a "repository for Muscogee (Creek) Nation historical documents and artifacts."

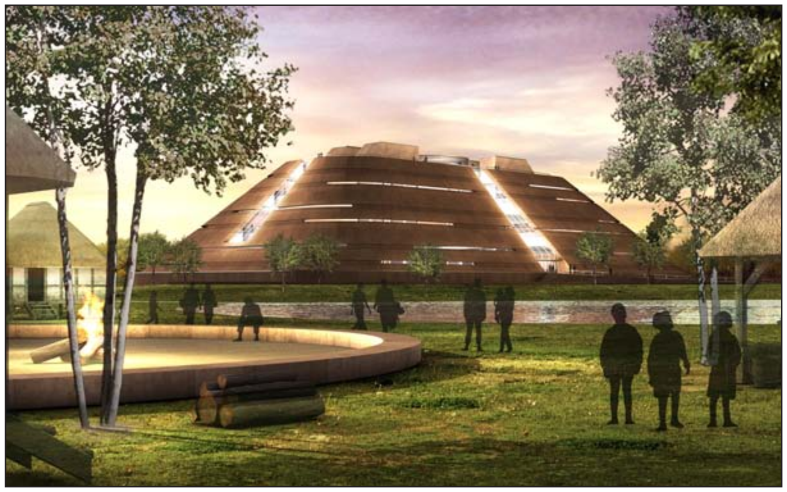
It is very likely that what we, as a Nation, do or fail to do will determine whether future generations will know more or will perhaps know nothing of their heritage. Since the 1970's, much has been done by and for our people, but today we stand at a cultural preservation crossroads. The Muscogee National Museum and Cultural Center will feed the Muscogee people in a way that food cannot.

It has already been predicted that …"The Indian is now on the road to disappearance…We…are facing the evening of our existence and are nearly at the end of the trail… In time, perhaps, our own language will not be used but that will be after our day." (quote from Siah Hicks)

This prediction has almost come to pass. Public schools do not teach Native American children about their culture. Due to the breadth of the social studies curriculum in schools today, culture-specific history and culture are barely mentioned. Moreover, erroneous information and an Anglo point of view mislead the Native American student as "facts" are distorted to paint a more favorable picture of American history.

The motion picture industry has historically added to the misinformation and creation of stereotypes that can seep into even a Native American's self concept. A Museum and Cultural Center can provide the means to correct such misinformation.

For several generations, the Muscogee people have been losing aspects of their culture due to the loss of our ancient towns as cultural hubs. While 16 towns or grounds remain viable today, the majority of Muscogee citizens know little of their ancient history and culture. Most want to know more but do not have the means to search it out. Creating a center and offering a variety of exhibits, musical presentations, lessons, tours, videos, and demonstrations will fill a huge need for the Muscogee people.



The Muscogee people are blessed to have knowledgeable citizens among us, people who can share cultural expertise and knowledge. It is not too late to share that knowledge and expertise to avoid the disappearance of more and more cultural knowledge.

Just as children in ancient times learned life skills from their mother's family members, the cultural center will bring generations together into a teaching-learning environment and will provide opportunities for children to develop competencies and a sense of pride. Tribal youth will benefit in many ways as they interact in meaningful activities, returning to the old way of learning about life as they learn skills, and will develop self esteem and self discipline at the same time.

A museum and cultural center will provide a place for elders to teach youth about our culture: bow making & shooting, cooking, Creek hymns, basket weaving, beading, flute making, traditional Creek clothing, shell carving, language, and more.

Some of these activities will spill out into the outdoors, and the grounds will eventually be a place to demonstrate skills such as growing vegetables, tanning hides, and flint knapping.

Special rooms and equipment will provide places to teach tribal arts, record elders' stories, gather classrooms of students, hold special exhibits, stage dramas and musical programs and films, learn about the solar cycles and celestial influence on the Muscogee, and more.

Is there any Muscogee citizen that would not want to read a letter written by his or her ancestors while en route to Indian Territory addressed to the President of the United States? Knowledge of treaties, letters, and other documents should be accessible to the Muscogee people where they live.

A Museum and Cultural Center Library will house books and materials for the young student as well as a scholar's library to serve students of the Muscogee College, graduate students, and historians.

Understanding who we were makes us who we are. Exhibits will create an experience for visitors. Use of technology and media will present history in its appropriate environment (for example, in a woodland setting), and visitors will enjoy interacting with presentations of music, sounds, language, historical maps and time lines, video, and touchable items that will address all five senses. The end result will be a "you are there; you have been transported to a different place and time" experience.

Muscogee children participating in the Challenge Bowl program will find that the Museum and Cultural Center will fill in the gaps for them, stimulate further knowledge, and instill a stronger sense of pride.

Adults will also benefit from exposure to traditional lifeways and will understand, often for the first time, Muscogee beliefs and ways of doing things as well as historical events of the Muscogee. Museum exhibits will be telling a comprehensive story: Lifeways of the Mississippian mound builder culture, the impact of European Contact, the Creek Confederacy, and extending through Removal to Indian Territory to include transitioning into modern life.

Anyone searching for more information about our culture would find that there are only a few small exhibits in area museums that include the Muscogee people at all, but their space is very limited. The Muscogee Nation has not yet told its own story for its own people, much less to the general public. The proposed Museum and Cultural Center will at last be able to tell the story as it should be told — by its own people.

Election

Continued from A1

Candidates will present credentials, work history and views on the possible future of our Nation. Additionally, they will present plans that will include the short- and long-term goals. This comprehensive plan has been developed over the last several years.

Candidates endorse an open flow of communication and will utilize the resources necessary to provide an improved quality of life for all of our citizens whether they are local or abroad.

Here is a list of candidates and advisors that will be presenting:

Nathan E. Anderson
Thlopthlocco Town King
ttt_mekko@yahoo.com
Tim Cheek
Thlopthlocco Town Warrior
(918) 623-9146
Wes Montemayor
Thlopthlocco Town Warrior
(405) 600-8990
Malinda Noon
Thlopthlocco Town Treasurer
Marian Berryhill
Thlopthlocco Town Secretary
(405) 712-3611
Inda McGertt
Thlopthlocco Town Advisor
(918) 759-9995
Kendis Rodgers
Thlopthlocco Town Advisor
(407) 415 6407
Tim Wolfe
Thlopthlocco Town Advisor
(405) 996-7405
Jason Sawyer
Thlopthlocco Town Advisor
(918) 321-2626
Vacant
Thlopthlocco Town Advisor

Creek ‘Good Samaritan’ returns purse

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation employee Victoria DelAngel returned a lost purse containing $200 cash to a fellow citizen and was recognized by the tribal administration and Secretary of the Nation Kevin Dillinger..

OKMULGEE — A Muscogee (Creek) Nation employee may have saved someone’s monthly budget. Victoria DelAngel, who works at the Election Board office, found a ladies’ purse near the tribal complex, containing about $200 but with no identification in it. She quickly decided it should go to the Lighthorse office for safekeeping until the owner was located.

On Sept. 2, a small presentation at the Tribal Administration office was made to thank DelAngel for that act. On behalf of Principal Chief A. D. Ellis, Secretary of the Nation Kevin Dillinger presented DelAngel with a “Good Samaritan” award for returning the purse. Dillinger remarked that the act was something out of the kindness of her heart and didn’t want her honesty to go unrecognized. The certificate read in part, “In recognition of your honesty and unselfishness, demonstrated the attributes of a Good Samaritan. A Good Samaritan is a person who performs an act of kindness to others, especially a stranger. What you did for a fellow Creek elder didn’t go unnoticed. Mvto.”

DelAngel recalled, that when she found the purse, she opened it to search for an I.D., and she thought, “It’s a lot of money, so somebody’s looking for it. I kept thinking it’s probably somebody’s, like an elder, somebody’s rent or somebody’s money for food.”

The daughter of the purses’ owner was attending the presentation and came forward to Lighthorse Chief Jack Shackelford to arrange to have it returned to her mother.

Local YMCA offers discount to MCN citizens, employees

Media Release
Okmulgee YMCA

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee County Family YMCA Management Team is pleased to introduce their newest addition, Billy Davis, Program Director.

Davis comes from Lawton, Okla., and brings ten years experience with YMCAs across the state.

“We are excited about the program ideas geared toward children and adults that will strengthen youth development, healthy living, and promote social responsibility, which are the YMCA’s primary areas of focus,” Davis said.

Okmulgee County YMCA C.E.O. Robert Phillips encouraged local families to utilize the facilities and resources available here.

“I am excited about the positive changes happening within our facility, which brings excitement to the Okmulgee community. I encourage you and your families to come and be an active part of all that we do here at the Okmulgee County Family YMCA. Please feel free to contact me anytime at (918) 756-6677, Ext. 12.

Membership and Marketing Coordinator Stephanie Carmona Howell reminds Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and employees qualify for discounted membership.

“I would like to remind everyone that all Creek citizens and MCN employees never pay a join fee at the Okmulgee County Family YMCA. Just bring your CDIB Card or employee I.D., and save anywhere between $20–$30 the day you join,” Howell said.

We offer Corporate Memberships for five or more employees, youth memberships for ages 12-14, college memberships (per semester) for all students whether it is online (or) in class, single-parent family rates, single sr. rates, husband and wife rates and family rates.

Anyone may try the facilities with a day pass available Monday through Sunday during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. – 9 p.m., Saturday from 7 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sunday from 1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

For more information, please contact Membership Coordinator Stephanie Howell at (918) 756-6677.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are Okmulgee County Family YMCA C.E.O. Robert Phillips, Membership Coordinator Stephanie Howell and Program Director Billy Davis. The local organization is providing discounted memberships to tribal citizens.

Prayer

Continued from B1

“It was just like watching a Steven Spielberg movie, but…it was for real,” Colman said.

In 2001, Colman lived in Albuquerque and the long drive back home allowed her time to reflect on what she had witnessed and about the future of America.

“I just thought about… the United States is not going to be the same.”

Her drive also allowed her to reflect on the emotions and virtues that are brought out after horrific events, like the Sept. 11 attacks.

“You don’t expect things like that to happen here in the United States. That happens across the ocean, it happens someplace else but here. But it happened,” Colman said. “That’s when we were reminded that evil is real, but also courage is real, too.”

Colman found faith and prayer to help her in the aftermath of 9/11.

“God gives us strength when we need it. It was prayer that brought me to terms.”

After being elected to the Assistant Chief, Colman learned how prepare her tribal community in the event something may occur in the Seminole Nation, including terrorist attacks.

At the winter session of the National Congress of American Indians convention, in Washing D.C., Colman attended a session sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security. The session taught Colman how to prepare and assist her in the development of an Emergency Management Office.

“In today’s world…there is much more challenges that we’re facing.”

Colman also reflected on the people serving overseas.

“I just think about our young men and women that so bravely have volunteered their service to the armed forces.”

OBITUARIES

AMOS BIRDCREEK

Lawrence, Kan. — Funeral services for Amos B. Birdcreek, 80, Lawrence, Kan., were held Thursday, Sept. 22, 2011 at the Warren-McElwain Mortuary in Lawrence. Military grave side honors followed at Memorial Park Cemetery in Lawrence. He died Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011 at Brandon Woods at Alvamar in Lawrence.

He was born Aug. 28, 1931 in Weleetka, Okla., the son of Lewis and Ida (Robison) Birdcreek. He attended kindergarten through seventh grade at the Euchee Boarding School in Sapulpa, Okla. He graduated from high school at Haskell and went through the post-high school plumbing program at Haskell.

He was a member of the Muscogee Creek Nation.

He served his country for 20 years in the Army National Guard of Kansas.

He was a retired teacher, plumber and draftsman. He worked part-time for the Kansas Turnpike Authority for a number of years.

He married Valeta Tah on Aug. 12, 1960 in Winfield, Kan. They later divorced.

Survivors include three daughters; Gwendolyn Ramirez, Brenda Birdcreek, Kimberly Birdcreek all of Lawrence, a son, Ben Birdcreek, of Tulsa, Okla.,; seven grandchildren (Wesley, Shawn, Vincent, Jessica, Benson, Abraham and Emmie) and four great grandchildren (Kyle, Camryn, Hunter and Hailey). He was preceded in death by his parents and his three siblings.

Online condolences may be sent to www.warrenmcelwain.com

MILLIE JEAN COLBERT

WEWOKA — Mille Jean Colbert, 66, of Eufaula, passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2011 at the Muskogee Regional Medical Center. Mille was born on Dec. 31, 1944 in Wewoka to Jimmie Sr. and Annie (Bear) Walker.

She attended the Eufaula Schools but received her GED certificate on Dec. 15, 1976. On April 25, 1963, she married James R. Colbert and had five children. Millie worked as the secretary for Indian Falls Creek and church rallies for many years. Her work experience included: Eufaula Head Start, Eufaula Elderly Nutrition, MCN Language Program, College of the Muscogee Nation and Bacone College.

Throughout the years, she was a song leader and had taught the Creek language to schools, various communities and churches. She was a member of the Weogufkee Baptist Church but recently returned to her home church at Tuskegee Baptist Church.

Survivors include: her husband, James, of the home; two sons, Randy Colbert and wife, Kirsten, of Okemah; Russell Colbert and wife, Rainey, of Norman; two daughters, Queenie Colbert; Lillie Murrell and husband Charles, Jr., both of Eufaula; one brother, Jimmie Walker, Jr., of Eufaula; one sister, Louina Lasley and husband, Monroe, of Kansas City, Mo.; two half-sisters, Carra Tiger, of Kansas City, Mo.; Charlieanna Panther and husband, Holis; and 11 grandchildren: Katee and Miranda Colbert; Ryan and David Colbert; Elisa and Billy Fields, Jr.; Brandon Colbert and Brandi Murrell; Victoria Colbert; and Hector and Jorge Longoria. She is preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Richard Walker; one infant sister, Lillie Ann Walker; and one daughter, Leah Fields.

Wake services were held at 7 p.m., Friday, Aug. 12, 2011 at the Kelley Memorial Chapel. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011 at the Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Jimmy Anderson officiating.

Pallbearers were Jerry Lasley, James Walker, Jeffrey Walker, Lewis Walker, Hector Longoria, and Jorge Longoria. Honorary Pallbearers will be Charles Murrell, Jr., Brandon Colbert, Billy Fields, Jr., Billy Fields, Ryan Colbert, and David Colbert. Burial will follow at Tuskegee Cemetery under the direction of Hunn Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory. Memorial contributions may be made to the Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church. Online condolences may be made at www.hbmfuneralhome.com

RITA STOCKTON MARAK

MEEKER — Rita Stockton Marak, 91, formerly of Bartlesville and Meeker, Okla., passed quietly into the arms of her Lord on Sunday, July 17, 2011 in McKinney, Texas.

Funeral services were held Saturday, July 30, 2011 at St. Gabriel Catholic Church in McKinney. Family internment will be at the Morse Cemetery in Okemah, Okla. Rita was born Jan. 3, 1920 in Okemah to Verner T. and Annie L. Watson Stockton.

Rita graduated from Mason High School in 1937. She studied nursing at St. Joseph's in Ponca City, OK. She practiced as an RN in Bartlesville, Pawhuska, Tahlequah and Shawnee.

Her dedication, faith and loving nature contributed to her reputation as a truly outstanding caregiver over her 56 year career. She retired from St Gregory's College in the early 90s.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Edmund Marak, brother, Ben L. Stockton, sisters Macie Williams and Kate Hinkle. She is survived by one adopted daughter, Kathy Marak Clements, grandsons Christopher, William and John and two great-grandsons. She is also survived by two sisters and their husbands Stella and David Thrower and Betty and Oliver McKinney as well as numerous nieces, nephews many dear friends.

Memorials may be made to Visiting Nurses Association Hospice at 1440 West Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, Texas 75247 or the charity of the givers choice.

MICHAEL JOHN POWELL

TULSA — Michael John Powell ,38, died on Aug. 12, 2011. Powell was born on May 11, 1973. He was a graduate of East Central High School, class of 1992. He worked for Globid X-Ray of Tulsa.

Powell is survived by one daughter Vanity DeBrosse of Claremore. His parents, Butch and Carolyn Powell of Tulsa; two brothers and two sisters: Jimmy Harjo and Jackie of Henryetta, Alfred Harjo of Sand Springs; Allison (Kaitlyn, Cheyenne) Powell of Tulsa and Jason and Adrienne Gambill of Tulsa.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, the Rev. C.D., and Marie Harjo, Amanda Cosar and Dave Powell. He also leaves a host of family and friends.

The family of Michael John Powell would like to thank family and friends for all their help and support to the family. It helped us get through this difficult time. Thanks to the Bender family. Thank you, Butch and Carols Powell

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funeral & cremation
Tom Kennedy- Owner/Operator
Bob McLemore
Patty Fletcher-McLemore

BIRTHS

JASON GAMBILL

TULSA — Jason Lee Gambill Jr. was born on July 27, 2011 to Jason and Adrienne Gambill at Southcrest Hospital in Tulsa.

Gambill weighed six pounds and 19 ounces and was 19 and a half inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Butch and Carol Powell of Tulsa. His paternal grandparents are Von and Terrie Downum of Muskogee. Paternal great-grandparents are Gordon and Lillian Gambill of Fort Gibson.

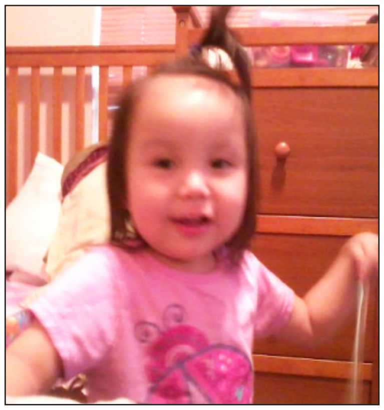
BIRTHDAYS

MEGGIE DAVIS

OKMULGEE — Meggie Davis celebrated her birthday on Sept. 28, 2011. Davis is the daughter of Wayne and Sue Davis. She is the sister of Tina, Sabrina, Anita and one in Tulsa.

Her grandparents are the late Frank and Annie Billy of Checotah and the late Charley and Mable Davis of Broken Bow. Meggie is Creek, Cherokee and Choctaw. She belongs to Muddy Waters ceremonial ground and is of the Deer Clan.

TANIYA TECUMSEH



MUSKOGEE — Taniya Tecumseh celebrated her second birthday on July 6, 2011 with a Dora the Explorer themed party. She is the daughter of Janeena E. Birdcreek and Tullemarsey N. Tecumseh.

Her maternal grandparents are Janet (McCarter) Birdcreek and Lex Birdcreek. Maternal great-grandparents are Dave Butler and the late Helen Butler and Edmond Birdcreek. Paternal grandparents are Norma J. (Byrd) Tecumseh and July Tecumseh.

Paternal great-grandparents are the late Wisey (Scott) Tecumseh and Israel Tecumseh.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SUNTILLA JACK

OKEMAH — Suntilla Louma-“Sagie” Jack was a recipient of the 2011 Mvskoke Women’s Initiative “Elementary Student of the Year” Leadership Award. She is a third grader at Bearden Elementary School and currently on the Superintendent’s honor roll.

Jack is a Brownie Girl Scout in Okemah, enjoys dancing at the ceremonial grounds, playing stickball and Euchee football and singing Mvskoke hymns.

Suntilla continues to learn her Native language, traditions and culture to keep her Euchee, Mvskoke and Alabama identity alive.

Jack was the 2008-2009 Little Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division I princess and the 2010-2011 Little Miss Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town representative. Jack has won art contests displaying her knowledge of the Mvskoke language.

Jack is the daughter of Mitch Jack and Esther Yargee. She is the granddaughter of Tarpie and Amy Yargee and Louma Jack.

She is the great-granddaughter of Winey Scott Yargee. Jack is a member of the Sand Creek Euchee ceremonial ground and the granddaughter of the Alabama ceremonial ground.

Jack belongs to the Deer Clan.

RYAN ROBERTS

TAHLEQUAH — Ryan Roberts, a sophomore at Okmulgee High School qualified for the Arrington McSpadden All-Indian Rodeo Association 2011 Region Eight Finals held in Tahlequah, Okla., during the Cherokee Nation Holiday on Sept. 4 and 5.

Roberts qualified in the junior steer riding competition placing fourth and first, winning the two-day finals. A belt buckle was awarded by Brad Fish, president of the AMAIRA, for being the average winner.

Roberts will travel to Las, Vegas, Nev., to participate in the Indian National Finals Rodeo held Nov. 8-12. Roberts finished eigth in the world in 2010.

Ryan is the son of Bodie and Amy Roberts. He is the grandson of Roy Roberts, of Okemah, Kay Roberts of Okmulgee and Vickie Keele of Okmulgee and the late Michael Keele.

WHITNEY ROBERTS

TAHLEQUAH — Whitney Roberts, a sophomore at Okemah High School, qualified for the Northeast Junior Rodeo Association of Oklahoma finals in McAlester at the Lightning C arena on Aug. 19, 20 and 21.

Whitney qualified in barrels, poles, breakaway roping and in heading and heeling in the team roping event. At the end of the two-day finals, Roberts will be awarded a custom made saddle in heeling and two first place buckles in the team roping event. These will be awarded at a banquet in Nov.

At the finals, Roberts won the All-Around Cowgirl overall in the 14-18 age group.

Roberts is the daughter of Chenoa Green and Anthony Roberts. She is the granddaughter of Roy Roberts and Teri McElye, Alice Green and Velma Coker.

GRADUATION

MARISSA HARJO

OKMULGEE — Marissa Raylene Harjo graduated from Okmulgee High School. Harjo is the daughter of the Scotty and Mary Harjo. Her grandparents are the late Juanite and Ina Artusse. They were very special to her.

Harjo plans on attending the College of the Muscogee Nation. Her biggest accomplishment was becoming the mother to her daughter, Davia Harjo.

Harjo’s tribal town is Arbeka and she is of the Tiger Clan.

ANNOUNCEMENT

YARGEE AND WAQUIE

WETUMKA — Lindsey Jo Waquie and Alexander Lee Yargee were united in marriage on April 2, 2011 at the Alabama Quassarte Community Center.

The bride is the daughter of Patricia Frye and Joe Waquie and of the Bear Clan. Her grandparents are Harbie and Mary Frye.

The groom is the son of Jackee Yargee and Lillie Hill and of the Wind Clan. His grandparents are the late Jack Isaac and Mary Hill and the late Phillip Yargee and Winey Yargee.

The groomsmen were Sonny Laughlin and Tumble Jack. The bridesmaids were Haley Waqui and Bea Frye. Ring bearers were Mya Tiger and Svta Jack. Flower girls were Suntilla Jack, Tema Yargee, Madison Factor and Sheridan Yargee.

A special thanks to everyone that was in the wedding and for helping with the decorations. “To the eight bridesmaids and groomsmen: Mvto.”

The two established their home in Eufaula, Okla.

Send us your lifestyle news

To submit announcements, please mail to:

***MCN Communications
PO Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK
74447***

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from July 1, 2011 through June 31, 2011 are as follows (continued from A2):

Traffic:

MCN v. Michael McManus	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Paige Perez	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Connie Brashears-Richardson	Operating in a manner
not	
	reasonable or proper
MCN v. Randall Osborn	No Insurance
MCN v. Ben Redfearn	No Insurance
MCN v. Ben Redfearn	Expired Tag
MCN v. Eric Sweat	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Lisa McGoy	No Insurance
MCN v. Daniel Rife	DUS
MCN v. Cynthia West	Improper Child Re-
straint	
MCN v. James Warezak	DUS
MCN v. Misty Holmes	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Vincent Hunt	No Insurance
Loan Plus v. Norma Cloud	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Kenneth Diver	Small Claims
Karen Little v. Elvin Hunt	Petition
Emalyn Fish	Name Change
Wells Fargo Financial Bank v. Rebecca Smith	Foreign Judgment
Loan Plus v. George Bell	Small Claims
Kendra Factor	Name Change

Divorce:

Leslie Lee v. Robert Lee	Divorce
Marissa Dobson v. Aron Dobson	Divorce
David Ford v. Paula Ford	Divorce
Jenna Debolt v. Phillip Debolt	Divorce
Anita Powell v. Anthony Barnett	Divorce
Billie Harjochee v. Paul Harjochee	Divorce
Lenore Mitchell v. Richmond Mitchell	Divorce
O'Cquinetta Pierce v. Clarence Pierce III	Divorce
Norman Franks v. Angeline Lowe	Divorce
Mary Williams v. Bruce Williams	Divorce
Yvette Garner v. James Garner	Divorce
Brook Leffler v. Jewel Leffler	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Angelia Harjo v. Christopher Cloud	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Connie Burkhalter v. Fredrick Burkhalter	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Bernadette Waoche v. Jason Otterlifter	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Steven Daniels v. Mindy Smith	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Tabetha Meech v. James Hill	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Devon Rounsaville v. Carrie Rounsaville	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Winey Moppin v. Matthew Perry	Child Support
OCSE ex rel., Julian Watson v. Jessica Segura	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Christopher Rich v. Tina Hadley	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jeri Lawrence v. Zachariah Anderson	Child Support

Criminal Felony:

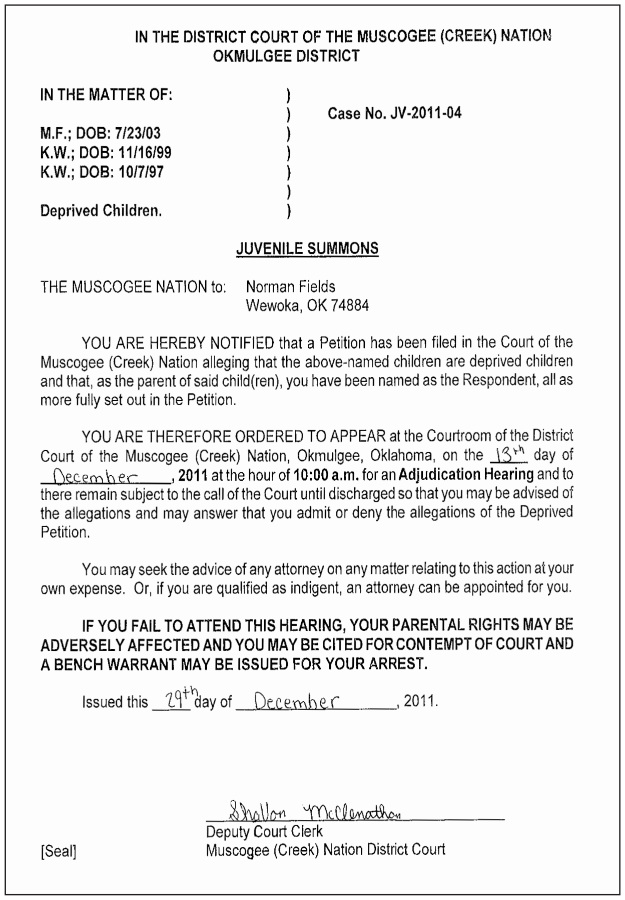
MCN v. Damon Wheat	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Tammy Rabbit	Ct. 1: Forgery
	Ct. 2: Uttering a Forged Instrument
MCN v. Lewis McGirt	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
	Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug
	Paraphernalia

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Rachel Mayberry	Ct. 1: Unauthorized Use of Vehicle

Traffic:

MCN v. Ashley Godsey	No Driver's License
MCN v. John Mann	No Insurance
MCN v. John Mann	Expired Tag
MCN v. Stephan Moran	DUS
MCN v. Diamond Brown	No Insurance
MCN v. Diamond Brown	Expired Tag
MCN v. David Martin	DUS
MCN v. Brandon Simon	No Driver's License
MCN v. Shannon McDonald	Tespassing
MCN v. Navarro Espinoza	No Driver's License
MCN v. Navarro Espinoza	No Insurance
MCN v. Caleb Franks	No Driver's License
MCN v. David Bryce	DUS
MCN v. David Bryce	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Ronald Jacobs	DUS



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2011-04**
M.F.; DOB: 7/23/03)
K.W.; DOB: 11/16/99)
K.W.; DOB: 10/7/97)
)
Deprived Children.)

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Norman Fields
Wewoka, OK 74884

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named children are deprived children and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

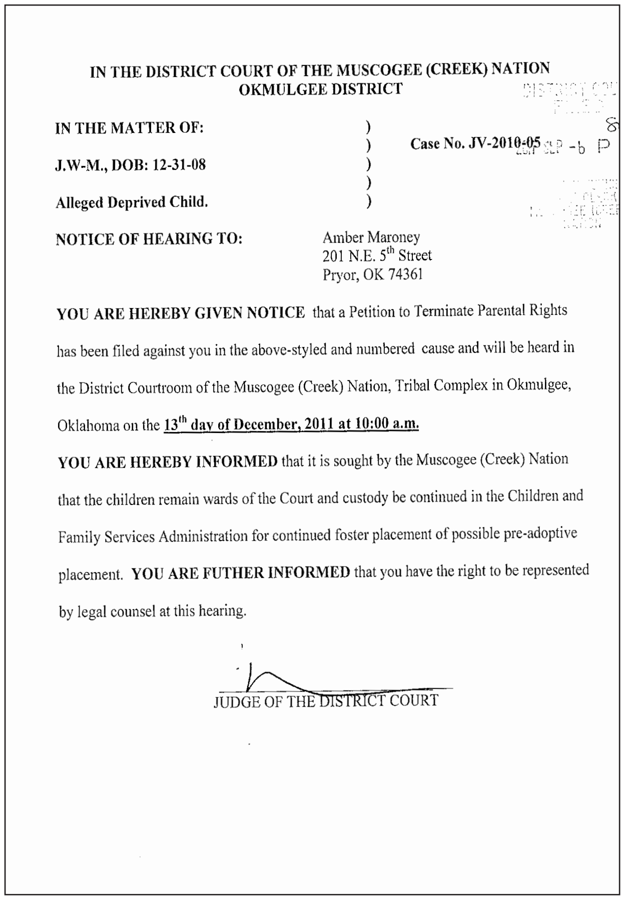
YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 13th day of December, **2011** at the hour of **10:00 a.m.** for an **Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 29th day of December, 2011.

Shallon McClenathon
Deputy Court Clerk
[Seal] Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2010-05**
J.W-M., DOB: 12-31-08)
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO: Amber Maroney
201 N.E. 5th Street
Pryor, OK 74361

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Oct. 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 15

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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“V” is for ‘Vote’

• Remember, remember Nov. 5, 2011

MNN/*Staff*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters will go to the polls Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011 for the General Election. Pictured above are candidates Michael Flud of Okmulgee and George Tiger of Bristow who are in a run-off for the elected position of Principal Chief.

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Voters must “remember, remember the fifth of November” this year. Muscogee (Creek) registered voters will elect the new Principal and Second Chief and members of the National Council on Nov. 5, 2011.

Michael Flud, of Okmulgee, and George Tiger, of Bristow, are in the run-off for the Principal Chief election.

Roger Barnett, of Bristow, and Louis Hicks, of Okmulgee, are in the run-off for the Office of the Second Chief.

Absentee Ballots will be mailed out Oct. 17 and must be in the post office by Nov. 5 at 11 a.m., according to the Election Board office. Voters must note that absentee ballot requests will not re-open for the General Election. New eligible voters can still vote on Nov. 5, but must cast their vote at a precinct location. Precinct registration will close Oct. 22, according to the Election Board office.

Okla. District Court rules against Tribal Court

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — A Sept. 8, 2011 ruling from the U.S. Eastern District Court of Oklahoma has directed the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to dismiss the pending indictments against 10 individuals from charges filed in October 2010.

The ruling was granted on the basis that the tribe lacks jurisdiction because the crime did not occur on trust land.

Charges were filed on 11 individuals in October 2010 for their involvement with the Duck Creek Indian Community.

SEE DUCK CREEK - A6

Writ of mandamus filed against Election Board

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — With the General Election just a month away, Leon Hamilton is making sure his vote will count. On Sept. 28, 2011, Hamilton filed an application for a writ of mandamus in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court against the MCN Election Board.

The legal definition of a writ of mandamus is where a court can command a board, corporation or person to perform their duty imposed by law.

Hamilton filed this application because he applied for an address change to receive an absentee ballot but the Election Board employees stated all ballot request forms had been sent, according to court records.

Hamilton did not receive an absentee ballot and was therefore unable to vote as an absentee voter in the Sept. 17 Primary Election.

According to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board bylaws, registered voters had to request an absentee ballot by Aug. 25.

A hearing is set for Oct. 10, 2011 at 10 a.m. in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court.

A2 LEGAL
Letters to the Editor

A3 LEGAL
Letter from the Editor

A4 VETERANS
Veterans’ Scoop

A5 CAPITOL NEWS
Official Primary
Election Results

A8 LEGAL
District Court filings

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letters to the editor

Youth Explosion a success

OKMULGEE — Henscih, I would like to thank Muscogee (Creek) Nation for allowing me to use the facilities at the Claude Cox Omniplex on Sept. 10, 2011 to have a Youth Explosion Christian Rock Concert.

I would also like to thank a few people personally first and foremost I would like to thank Second Chief Alfred Berryhill for making it possible for me to use the facilities. Also I would like to thank the Muscogee (Creek) Royalty for being part of the event and speaking to the youth. I know the youth enjoyed it and I did as well. I would like to say also to the royalty that you have a difficult position and standard to up hold because you are being watched by all and it was a real pleasure to have you there, thank you.

Also, I would like to thank the Communications Department for all their hard work. This event would not have happened if it had not been for all you. So thanks Jennifer Taryole and Tyler Roberds, good graphics dude. Gerald Wofford you have some good employees working in your department. So thanks to all that had a part of this event. We had a good show, about 150 people showed up and maybe next year the crowd will be bigger. I look forward to working with all of you again next year.

Mvto,
Robert Lay

Citizen responds to Aug. 15 letter to the editor

COALINGA, Calif. — Dear Editor Landsberry,

First and foremost, mvto for all of the hard work you do at keeping us informed of tribal happenings. I am way over here in Calif., and in prison at that, so I rely on the MNN (keep it coming, it's appreciated) for all tribal info.

Now to my gripe. This letter is about questions asked by Lonnie Hamilton in his letter to you that was published in Aug. (the 15th to be exact)

The questions weren't at all rhetorical and I think we all should give this some deeper thought. They are as follows: "What is it about our people who seem to forget these ways in our everyday lives?" "Do we have to lose our connection to our origins, and the ways of our ancestors?" "Where are the disciplines of our ancestors reflected in our government?"

After giving much thought to his letter I asked myself these same questions; especially after reading his beautiful description of the ceremony and gathering of our people.

And well, my answer to these questions is that I haven't noticed any tribal leader or those running for office believe in any other ideology other than Christianity. Most profess to be Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian; I've even read about some saying they sang hymns in our language. I'm not saying for these people to abandon their Bibles or deny their savior, because they have a right to believe in whomever they please. However, by accepting an ideology not our own, and the very religion that sought to destroy Red People, by killing the Indian, saving the man, I believe is where we went wrong.

How can we preserve the ways of our ancestors and hand them down to our children when the very people that we elect don't believe, or know, that way themselves? As long as we continue to elect these that practice a way contrary to that of our ancestors, we will continue to see our principles and integrity as a people diminished, especially when we adopt the capitalist mentality of expansionism. After all, isn't that the mentality of ol' Andy Jackson?

Sure our tribe is flourishing, but are a few casinos and office buildings and corrupt politicians seeking only to line their pockets worth further losing our identity and the ways that keep us connected to our grandparents' grandparents?

I don't mean to sound disrespectful because I do love our people; I just think that the majority of those holding tribal office should be traditionalists because, after all, they are the true cultural preservation department and ensure that those old principles and values that Lonnie Hamilton speaks of are passed down properly...so that we don't ask, "Where have they gone?"

P.S. Anyone wishing to respond may do so.

Red Respects,
Samuel J. Escobar, Jr.
T92012 PV.S.P A-4-218
P.O. Box 8500
Coalinga, CA 93210

Voter questions MCN Election Board balloting process

CORPUS CHRISTY, Texas — Please be aware that I spent several hours studying the correspondence, printed interviews, etc. in order to make the best choice, in my opinion, for the Principal Chief, Second Chief and all the other positions.

The ballot was mailed on Sept. 12 at our local post office. On Sept. 15, the ballot was in our mail box, having been mailed to the address (our home address) in the middle of the back of the ballot (immediately took it and mailed back to the address on the front of the Official Ballot address—after X-ing thru our address and reprinting the send-to address on the back).

Whether or not the ballot arrived to be counted is a mystery. How many others were also sent back? Printing the sender's complete address in the center of The back of the envelope was a mistake. This is something that should be investigated by the election committee, and possibly change the format on the return envelope so that there will be no confusion, or returned ballots for future elections. Only the voter's signature on the left band comer on the back, is all that is necessary.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Calvin Self

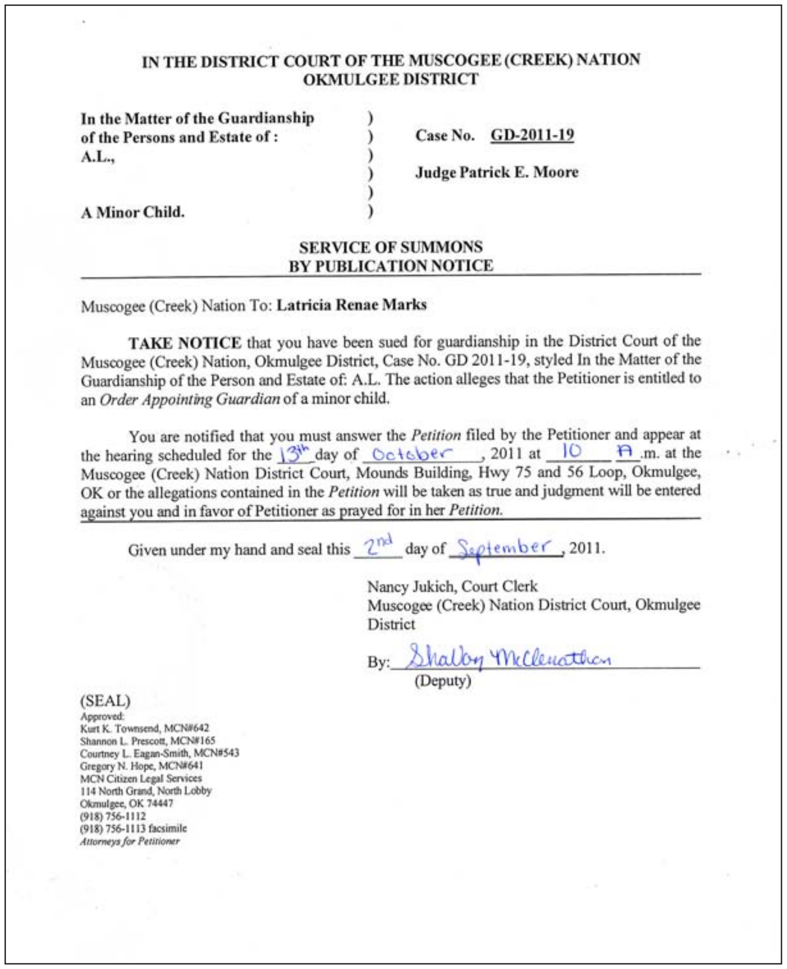
Absentee voter comments on Primary Election vote

PHOENIX, Ariz. — As a non resident member of the Muscogee Creek Nation I am honored to be in a position to vote an absentee ballot.

Voting is a privilege and I would hope the residents of the Nation will support the individuals who are taking the time to run for these important offices, by voting.

Being a non resident, the only knowledge I have of the candidates is through the Muscogee Nation News, and the literature many candidates have sent. My hope is the candidates I have voted for will prove to be the best people for the job. Many of the candidates have extensive educational backgrounds, many an amazing work ethic, and all have appear to have the best interest of the Nation at

Thank you,
Posey Moore Nash
Great Granddaughter Alexander Lawrence Posey



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estate of :) Case No. GD-2011-19
A.L.,)
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)
A Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: **Latricia Renae Marks**

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD 2011-19, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: A.L. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to an *Order Appointing Guardian* of a minor child.

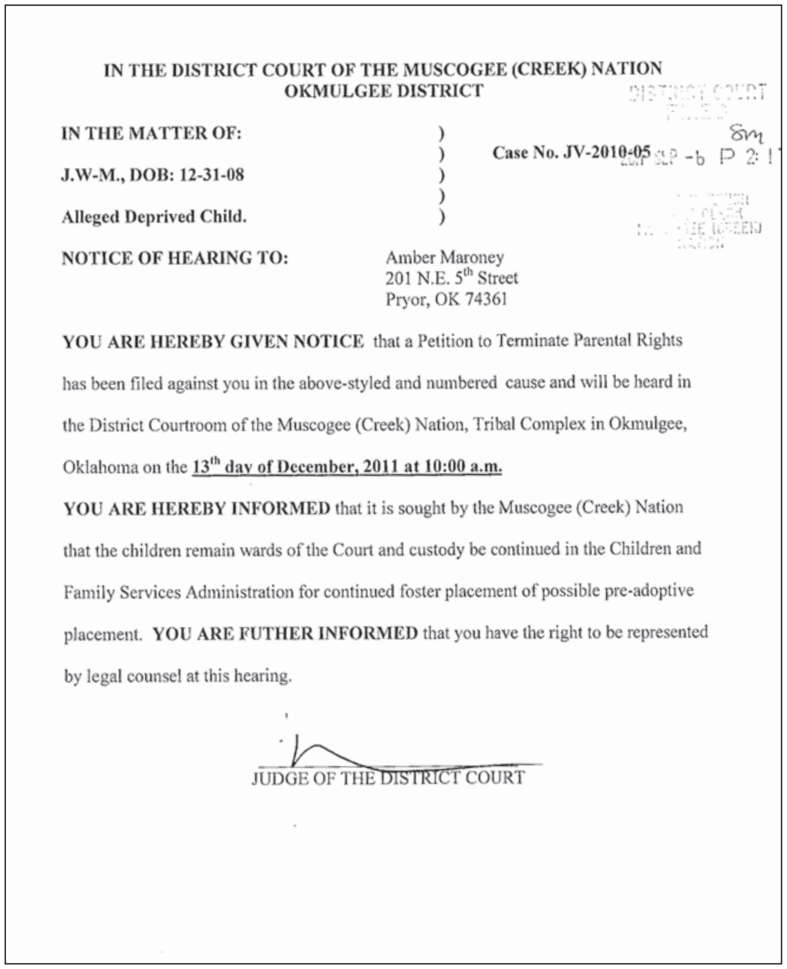
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 13th day of October, 2011 at 10 A.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mounds Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shalby McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
sm
SEP -6 P 2: 1

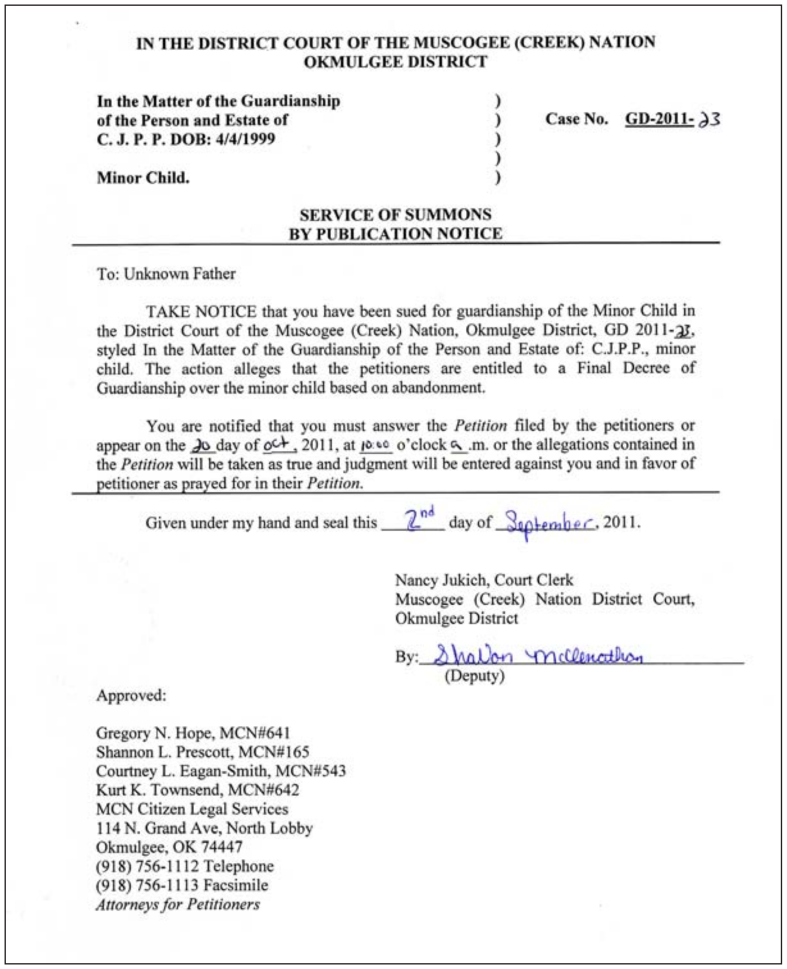
IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Case No. JV-2010-05
J.W-M., DOB: 12-31-08)
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO: Amber Maroney
201 N.E. 5th Street
Pryor, OK 74361

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Person and Estate of) Case No. GD-2011-23
C. J. P. P. DOB: 4/4/1999)
)
Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Unknown Father

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2011-23, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: C.J.P.P., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioners or appear on the 20 day of oct, 2011, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in their *Petition.*

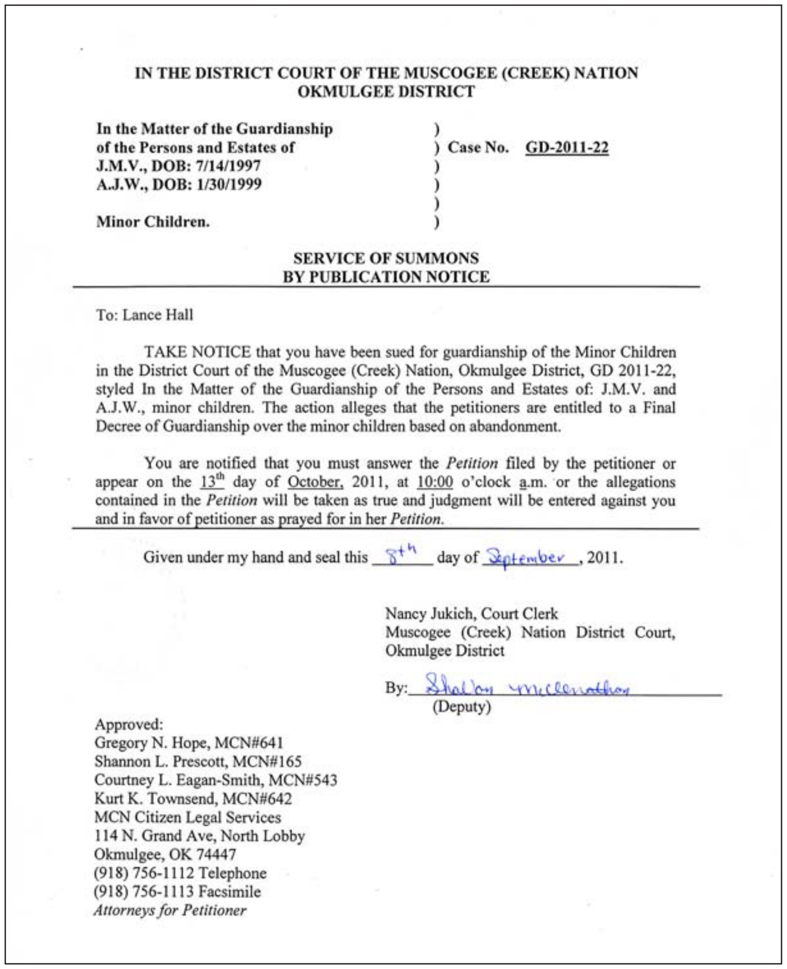
Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathan
(Deputy)

Approved:

Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioners



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estates of) Case No. GD-2011-22
J.M.V., DOB: 7/14/1997)
A.J.W., DOB: 1/30/1999)
)
Minor Children.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Lance Hall

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Children in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2011-22, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Persons and Estates of: J.M.V. and A.J.W., minor children. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 13th day of October, 2011, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathan
(Deputy)

Approved:
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Otowoskv Rakko (October) is finally here. I wait impatiently all year long for this month because it introduces three of my favorite things: cooler weather, pumpkins and OU/TX (I'm sure this isn't proper AP style, but I just can't force myself to type it any other way).

Here in Okla., the fall always signals the arrival of the Tulsa State Fair as well. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will have a booth this year so you can eat a turkey leg, pet some sheep and stop by if you get a chance. There is also a Muscogee (Creek) citizen showcasing her talents via an award-winning exhibit so visit Jane Breckinridge at the Butterfly House while you're there.

According to Breckinridge, "We are the only butterfly house in existence that flies so many butterflies at one time — over 5,000 — and we are the only butterfly house that allows guests to hold the butterflies," she stated in an email.

The fair will run through Sunday, Oct. 9.

Tulsa Creek Indian Community will host a meet and greet and debate for the Second Chief and Principal Chief candidates Monday, Oct. 17, 2011 from 6-10 p.m., at the community center located at 8611 S. Union in Tulsa. For more information, contact TCIC at (918) 298-2464.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7720 or email me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Scoop:

Veteran ride set for Oct. 14

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

OKMULGEE — VASO will be hosting a Muscogee veteran motorcycle ride on Friday, Oct. 14, 2011 at 5 p.m.

We will assemble at 1500 at the Veterans Building. From the Veterans Building, in formation we will be traveling to the 5 and Diner restaurant in Tulsa.

After dinner, we will then travel to the Admiral Twin Drive-In theater for a movie. Muscogee Veteran motorcycle riders are allowed to bring one guest but the guest must ride with the veteran.

VASO will pay for the dinner and the movie. Please call Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739 to confirm your participation.

The Veterans' Scoop features articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.

Muscogee Veterans' Pass-in-Review set for Nov. 10

MUSCOGEE
AIRMEN

MNN/*Starla Bush*

Muscogee veterans will gather for a Pass-in-Review in honor of Veteran's Day to honor Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and the newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

OKMULGEE — This year in celebration of Veteran's Day, we will conduct a Pass-in-Review march as is the same with the United States of America Nov. 10, 2011.

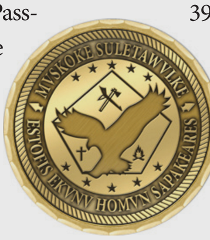
The newly-elected and outgoing President is granted the honor of having the United States military Pass-in-Review. We are no different.

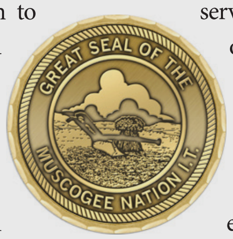
The purpose of a Pass-in-Review is to honor the elected civilian leadership and to confirm to all, the military is under command and control of the civilian officials.

We will conduct a Pass-in-Review to honor Principal Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, and our newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

The order of march will be Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps.

We plan on casting 400 commemorative coins to be given to participating Muscogee veterans after the march. The coins will have the Muscogee (Creek) seal and Veterans Office.





Coins numbers 1/400 will be given to Principal Chief Ellis, coin 2/400 will be given to Second Chief Berryhill, 399/400 will be given to the newly elected Second Chief and 400/400 will be given to the newly-elected Principal Chief.

The symbolism of these coins' numbers to our chiefs is to confirm the military is within command and control of our civilian officials.

We will assemble at 10 a.m. Nov. 10, 2011 at the Veterans Building where we will form and rehearse until 12 p.m. Chow is from 12-1 p.m. From 1-2 p.m., we will conduct a dry run and last minute adjustments. At 2 p.m., we will conduct a Pass-in-Review, which will be from VASO to the east of the Mound Building.

Please contact VASO your commemorative coin may be reserved. In closing, we march once every four years to honor the peaceful transition of power in our tribe; it should be honored and will be protected and recognized by us, the veterans of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

God bless our Muscogee Veterans, our Muscogee (Creek) Nation and our continued peaceful political process.

2011 MCN voter precinct information

Creek District

- Bristow Indian Community Center
710 S. Main St.
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center
1020 N. Brown St.

Mcintosh District

- Eufaula Indian Community Center
800 Forest Ave.
- Checotah Indian Community Center
500 Owens Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center
Last road through Hanna, turn east and go four miles
- Yardeka Indian Community Center
Eight miles SE of Henryetta (one mile south of Salem Baptist) S. 250 Rd.

Muskogee District

- Muscogee Indian Community Center
111 South Virginia

Okfuskee

- Okemah Indian Community Center
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community
602 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District

- Dewar Indian Community Center
212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center
2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center
8110 Highway 52

Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District

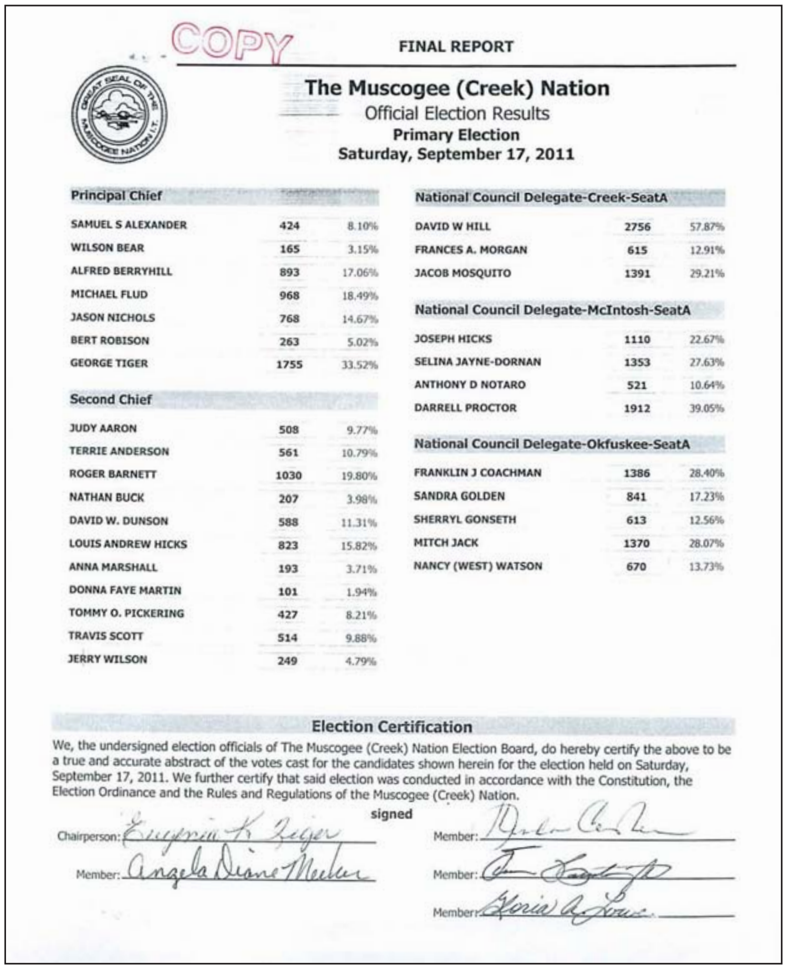
- Dustin Indian Community Center
Main Street
- Holdenville Indian Community Center
224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community Center
608 N. Creek St.

Tulsa District

- Glenpool Indian Community Center
13839 S. Casper
- Tulsa Indian Community Center
8611 South Union

Wagoner District

- Koweta Indian Community
30925 E. 141st St. S



COPY

FINAL REPORT

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Official Election Results
Primary Election
Saturday, September 17, 2011

Principal Chief

SAMUEL S ALEXANDER	424	8.10%
WILSON BEAR	165	3.15%
ALFRED BERRYHILL	893	17.06%
MICHAEL FLUD	968	18.49%
JASON NICHOLS	768	14.67%
BERT ROBISON	263	5.02%
GEORGE TIGER	1755	33.52%

Second Chief

JUDY AARON	508	9.77%
TERRIE ANDERSON	561	10.79%
ROGER BARNETT	1030	19.80%
NATHAN BUCK	207	3.98%
DAVID W. DUNSON	588	11.31%
LOUIS ANDREW HICKS	823	15.82%
ANNA MARSHALL	193	3.71%
DONNA FAYE MARTIN	101	1.94%
TOMMY O. PICKERING	427	8.21%
TRAVIS SCOTT	514	9.88%
JERRY WILSON	249	4.79%

National Council Delegate-Creek-SeatA

DAVID W HILL	2756	57.87%
FRANCES A. MORGAN	615	12.91%
JACOB MOSQUITO	1391	29.21%

National Council Delegate-McIntosh-SeatA

JOSEPH HICKS	1110	22.67%
SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN	1353	27.63%
ANTHONY D NOTARO	521	10.64%
DARRELL PROCTOR	1912	39.05%

National Council Delegate-Okfuskee-SeatA

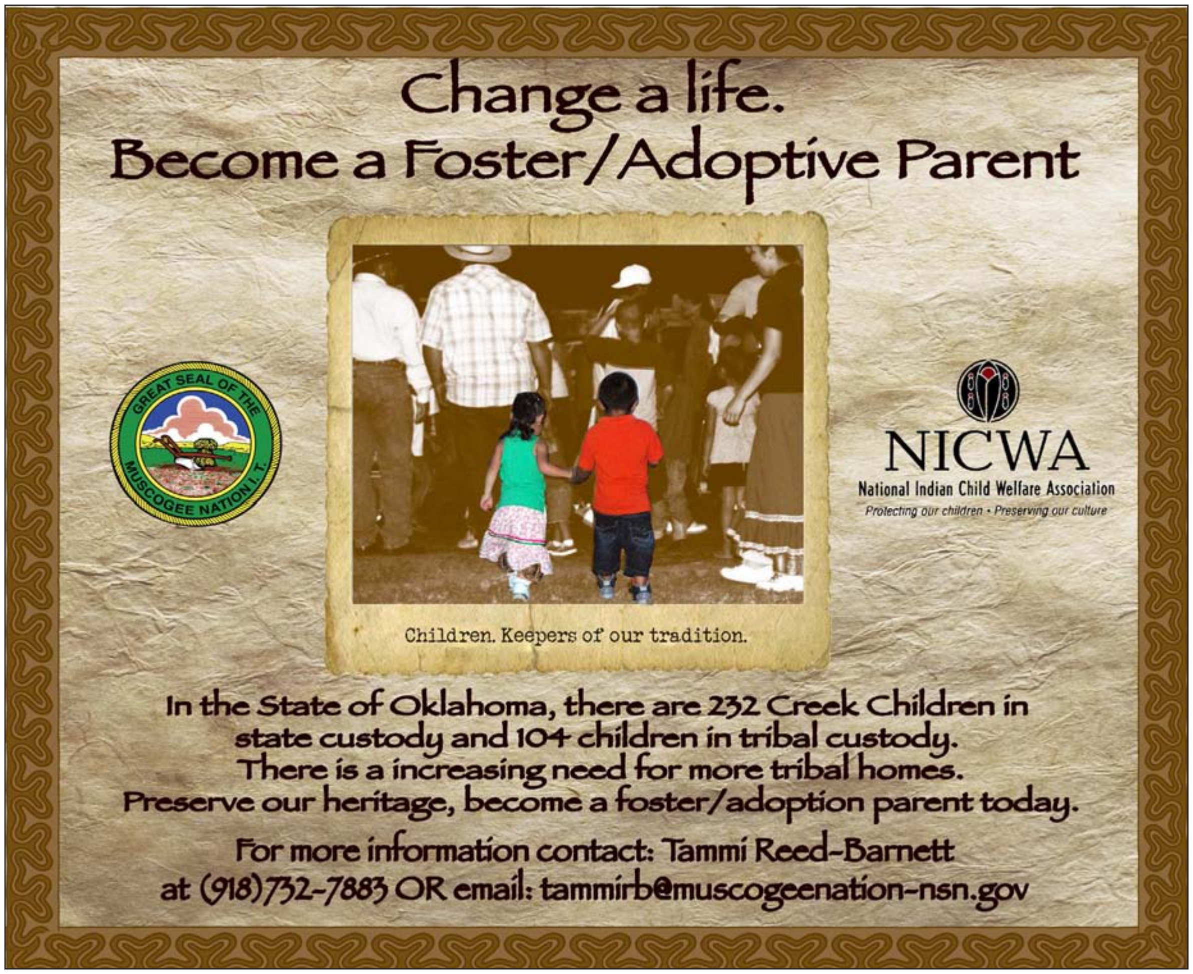
FRANKLIN J COACHMAN	1386	28.40%
SANDRA GOLDEN	841	17.23%
SHERRYL GONSETH	613	12.56%
MITCH JACK	1370	28.07%
NANCY (WEST) WATSON	670	13.73%

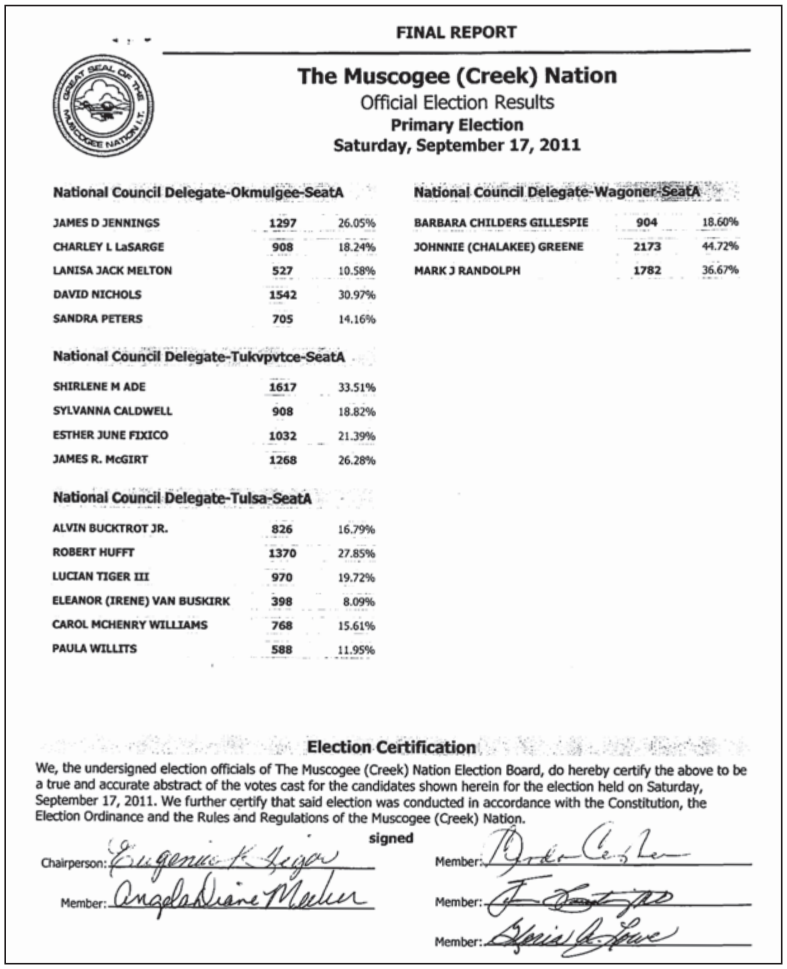
Election Certification

We, the undersigned election officials of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board, do hereby certify the above to be a true and accurate abstract of the votes cast for the candidates shown herein for the election held on Saturday, September 17, 2011. We further certify that said election was conducted in accordance with the Constitution, the Election Ordinance and the Rules and Regulations of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

signed

Chairperson: Eugenia K. Zeiger
Member: Angela Diane Meeker
Member:
Member:
Member: Gloria A. Lowe


Change a life.
Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent
Great Seal of the Muscogee Nation I.T.
NICWA
National Indian Child Welfare Association
Protecting our children • Preserving our culture
Children. Keepers of our tradition.
In the State of Oklahoma, there are 232 Creek Children in state custody and 104 children in tribal custody.
There is a increasing need for more tribal homes.
Preserve our heritage, become a foster/adoption parent today.
For more information contact: Tammi Reed-Barnett
at (918)732-7883 OR email: tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov



FINAL REPORT

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Official Election Results
Primary Election
Saturday, September 17, 2011

National Council Delegate-Okmulgee-SeatA

JAMES D JENNINGS	1297	26.05%
CHARLEY L LaSARGE	908	18.24%
LANISA JACK MELTON	527	10.58%
DAVID NICHOLS	1542	30.97%
SANDRA PETERS	705	14.16%

National Council Delegate-Tukvpvtce-SeatA

SHIRLENE M ADE	1617	33.51%
SYLVANNA CALDWELL	908	18.82%
ESTHER JUNE FIXICO	1032	21.39%
JAMES R. McGIRT	1268	26.28%

National Council Delegate-Tulsa-SeatA

ALVIN BUCKTROT JR.	826	16.79%
ROBERT HUFFT	1370	27.85%
LUCIAN TIGER III	970	19.72%
ELEANOR (IRENE) VAN BUSKIRK	398	8.09%
CAROL MCHENRY WILLIAMS	768	15.61%
PAULA WILLITS	588	11.95%

National Council Delegate-Wagoner-SeatA

BARBARA CHILDERS GILLESPIE	904	18.60%
JOHNNIE (CHALAKEE) GREENE	2173	44.72%
MARK J RANDOLPH	1782	36.67%

Election Certification

We, the undersigned election officials of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board, do hereby certify the above to be a true and accurate abstract of the votes cast for the candidates shown herein for the election held on Saturday, September 17, 2011. We further certify that said election was conducted in accordance with the Constitution, the Election Ordinance and the Rules and Regulations of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

signed

Chairperson: Eugenia K. Zeiger
Member: Angela Diane Meeker
Member:
Member:
Member: Gloria A. Lowe

Duck Creek

Continued from A1

Charges included conspiracy to embezzle community funds, theft of the Nation's funds and concealing stolen property, court records show.

The lawyer representing 10 of the 11 individuals charged, Joseph Williams, was pleased with the ruling.

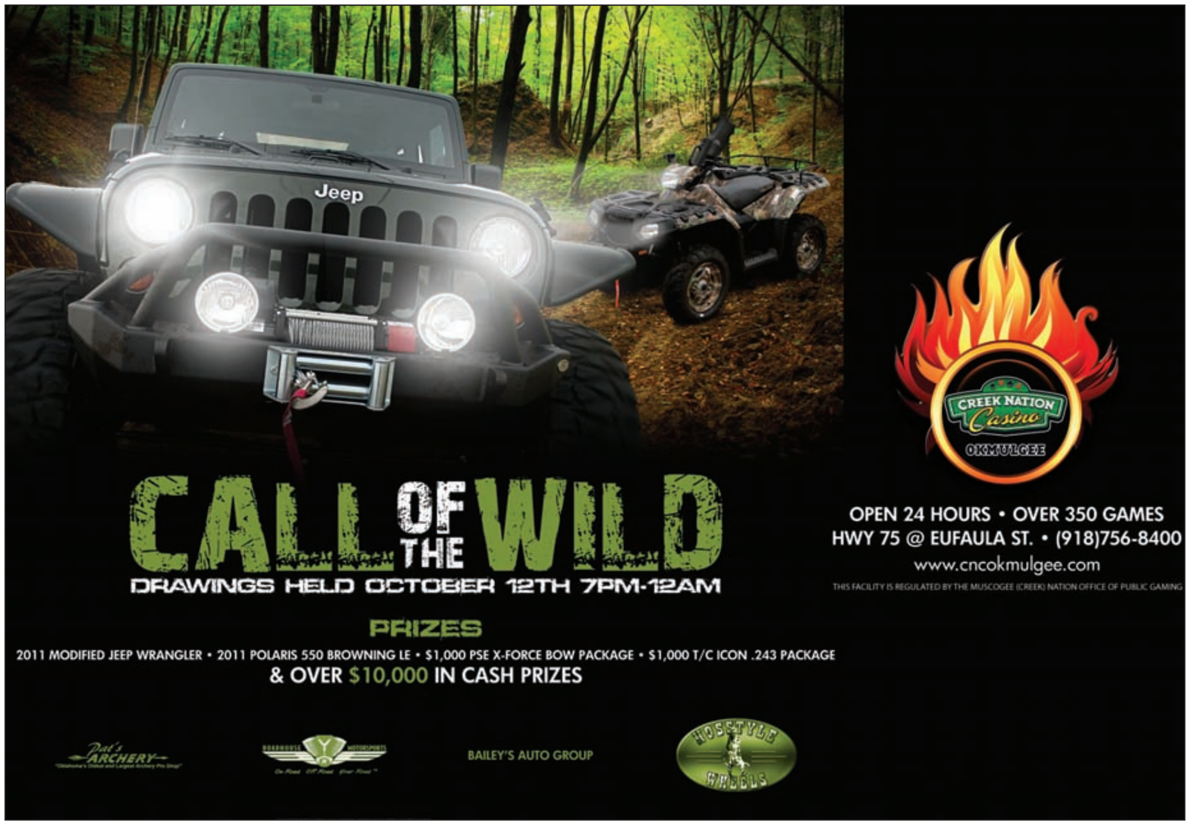
"We are pleased with this ruling," Williams said in an email."We've always believed that the charges against the Duck Creek individuals were politically motivated and not in accordance with the law."

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Special Prosecutor Rod Weimer filed the complaints in the District Court.

"It's being appealed," Weimer said about the recent ruling.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Southern Regional Office Oct. 2011 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FD-Food Distribution E&T-Employment & Training	Office	Number	(405) 452-1101			1
2	3 Housing 8am-5pm	4 Housing 8am-5pm Human Development 9am-3pm	5 Housing 8am-5pm Reintegration 9am-4pm National Council 9am-4pm Citizenship 10am-3pm Legal Services (appointment only)	6 Housing 8am-5pm E&T 8am-5pm Social Services@FD 9am-11am	7 Housing 8am-5pm	8
9	10 Housing 8am-5pm	11 Housing 8am-5pm Human Development 9am-3pm Tax Commission 9am-3pm	12 Housing 8am-5pm Reintegration 9am-4pm National Council 9am-4pm	13 Housing 8am-5pm E&T 8am-5pm Tax Commission 9am-3pm	14 Housing 8am-5pm WIC@Clinic 9am-4pm	15
16	17 Housing 8am-5pm	18 Housing 8am-5pm Human Development 9am-3pm Tax Commission 9am-3pm	19 Housing 8am-5pm Reintegration 9am-4pm National Council 9am-4pm Legal Services 9am-3pm	20 Housing 8am-5pm E&T 8am-5pm Tax Commission 9am-3pm	21 Housing 8am-5pm	22
23	24 Housing 8am-5pm	25 Housing 8am-5pm Human Development 9am-3pm	26 Housing 8am-5pm Reintegration 9am-4pm National Council 9am-4pm	27 Housing 8am-5pm E&T 8am-5pm	28 Housing 8am-5pm WIC@Clinic 9am-4pm	29
30	31 Housing 8am-5pm					


Jeep
CREEK NATION Casino OKMULGEE
CALL OF THE WILD
DRAWINGS HELD OCTOBER 12TH 7PM-12AM
OPEN 24 HOURS • OVER 350 GAMES
HWY 75 @ EUFAULA ST. • (918)756-8400
www.cncokmulgee.com
THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING
PRIZES
2011 MODIFIED JEEP WRANGLER • 2011 POLARIS 550 BROWNING LE • $1,000 PSE X-FORCE BOW PACKAGE • $1,000 T/C ICON .243 PACKAGE
& OVER $10,000 IN CASH PRIZES
Pat's ARCHERY
ROADHOUSE MOTORSPORTS
BAILEY'S AUTO GROUP
HOGSTYLE WHEELS

Sapulpa Indian Community to elect officers Dec. 5

Media Release
Sapulpa Creek Indian Community

SAPULPA — Sapulpa Creek Indian Community will hold officer elections during the month of Dec.

Any Creek citizen living within the boundaries of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in becoming a member of the community may apply for membership to vote in the upcoming election by Nov. 18, 2011.

Members of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in filing for candidacy in an elected office may be subject to a Background Check and drug testing with the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community.

Registered members are also encouraged to update their contact information with the community at this time.

Officer elections will be held Monday, Dec. 5, 2011. A list of the positions will be published at a later date.

For more information contact Wanda Weaver at (918) 645-7772 or the Sapulpa Indian Community Center at (918) 227-9627.

Claims Filing Assistance

in the $760 million Keepseagle Indian Farmer/Rancher Settlement

DATE: October 11-13, 2011
TIME: Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Comanche Nation College
1608 Southwest 9th Street
Lawton, OK

DATE: October 11-13, 2011
TIME: Between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Housing Building Conference Room
2951 North Wood Drive
Okmulgee, OK

What is this About?

The class action settles claims that the USDA discriminated against Native American farmers and ranchers seeking farm loans or loan servicing.

Who is Included?

The Settlement includes:

- Native American farmers who:
  - Farmed or ranched (or attempted to) any time from 1981 to late 1999.
  - Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA.
  - Complained about discrimination to the USDA either directly or through a representative.
- Heirs of the above.

How Much Money Can I Get?

You may be eligible for a payment of up to $50,000 or more and full or partial loan forgiveness.

To receive a payment,
you must file a claim by December 27, 2011

To get help in filing a claim,
attend a meeting or call: 1-888-233-5506
or visit: www.IndianFarmClass.com

Emvponayv

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Didja vote, huh?

That long list of candidates has now been trimmed down to the top vote-getters. The run-off is Nov. 5. Remember, if ya don't vote, ya got no reason to complain about the folks in control. C'mon, Creeks!

Oklahoma Cherokee actor Wes Studi has a new role. He's been hired by a development corporation to tour villages in western Alaska to sell the idea of a huge mine in an area many Alaskans use for commercial and subsistence salmon fishing. It's a real controversy and, Wes, I think you better re-think getting involved here. Leave it to the Alaskans. That's already a nasty fight and pure quicksand for your reputation no matter which way it goes.

Speaking of Cherokees, the Oklahoma Film & Music Office says that a film on the work of Wilma Mankiller has started in Tahlequah. "The Cherokee Word for Water" is inspired by the story of the success of a rural Cherokee community in bringing running water to their families. The movie is told from the perspective of Mankiller, the first female principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, and her husband, Charlie Soap, a Cherokee organizer and community advocate. The completion of the waterline sparked a movement of similar self-help projects across the Cherokee nation.

The film is committed to using American Indian talent both behind and in front of the camera. Mankiller died April 6, 2010 after battling pancreatic cancer. She was 64.

Award-winning actress Kimberly Norris Guererro (Cherokee, Salish-Kootenai, and enrolled Colville), a native Oklahoman, will play the part of Mankiller. She is best known for her role in the television series "Seinfeld" as Jerry's girlfriend "Winona" in the episode entitled "The Cigar Store Indian."

On the other hand, a stage production in Minn. has some Ojibwe folks upset. An opera intended to celebrate American Indian culture is now facing an accusation of racial insensitivity because the lead singers are not Indian. The Duluth Festival Opera's production of "Pocahontas: A Woman of Two Worlds," has no American Indians in principal roles - not even Pocahontas, a Powhatan Indian.

The opera 'operators' said auditions didn't generate interest from American Indian opera performers. But Lyz Jaakola, an operatic mezzo soprano and member of the Fond du Lac Band, said the DFO didn't try hard enough and that there is no excuse for non-natives to "play Indian" in 2011.

It's on again.

Reports say that we may get to hear actor Johnny Depp say "Kemo Sabe" as Tonto in the "The Lone Ranger" after all. Folks in charge have found a way to lower the film's production budget from a staggering $250 million to a more manageable $215 million. Word has it that it will start shooting sometime in the new year. Armie Hammer still plays the Masked Man. Imagine a big star like Depp playing a sidekick. Did anyone ever figure out what tribe Tonto was supposed to be? Get 'em up, Scout.

Looking ahead to the holidays, the MCN Tribal Reintegration program is looking for your help. First of all, they are in need of some coats for their clients trying to work their way back into society. With cold weather on the way, consider donating a gently used coat or two. And, in a bit of early Christmas spirit, they have begun their third annual Toy Drive. Please donate a new unwrapped toy for a child of any age or sex. I've seen these programs working and it means so much to see a child's eyes brighten and their smile when they receive a gift for Christmas. (Sniff!)

Meanwhile, enjoy the cooler weather and football season. Go (fill in the blank)! Yea Team!

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from July 1, 2011 through July 31, 2011 are as follows:

Traffic:

MCN v. Justin Bridges	Disorderly Conduct

Marriage Licenses:

Lacey Buckner v. Francis Haag Jr.	Marriage License

The District Court filings from Aug. 1, 2011 through Aug. 31, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

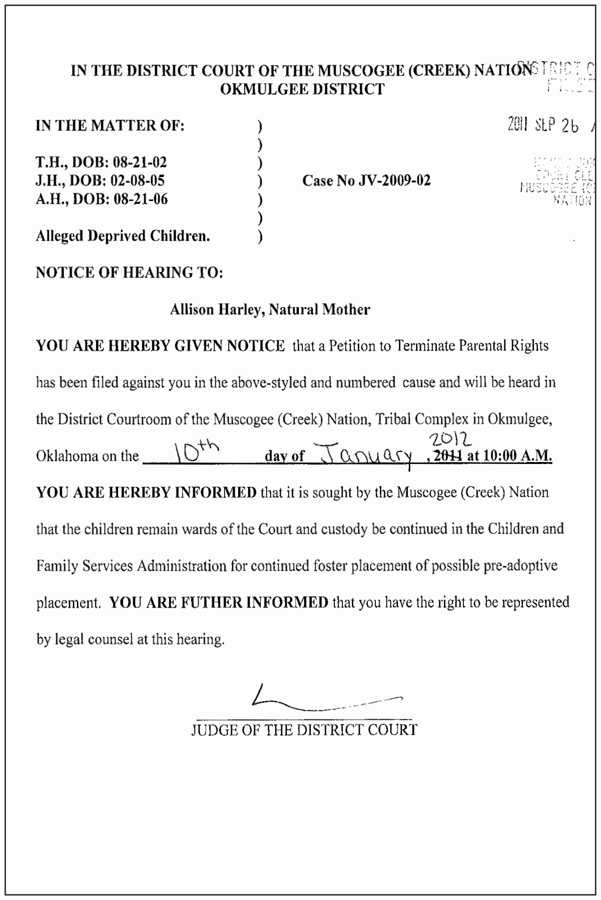
Richard Wilde v Tulsa Creek Indian Community Board of Directors, aka TCIC Teddy McHenry, Etta Dickerson, June Mustari, Jane Doe and John Freeman	Petition
Muskogee Regional Medical Center, LLC., v. Larry Six	Foreign Judgment
Anna Cockrum v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Petition
Empire Finance v. Eugina McGirt	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Sharon Franz	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Tammy Bogle	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Lisa Lambert	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. LaDonna Burns	Small Claims
Erica Sharp v. Drake Delacal	Petition
Connie Dearman v. Dustin Thomas	Petition
Christopher Matthews v. Carolyn Puckett	Petition
Michael McCarty v. Danielle Anderson	Foreign Judgment
Midwestern Loans v. Amanda Hall	Small Claims
Midway Mobile Home Park v. Rachel Britt	Foreign Judgment
Samantha Craig v. Ryan Williamson	Petition
Jeramy Woodward v. Kiley Banks	Petition
Tinker Federal Credit Union v. Kathleen Coachman	Foreign Judgment
Tinker Federal Credit Union v. Pamela Eskamire	Foreign Judgment
Mandy Brown v. Timothy Davis	Petition
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Christine O'Neal	Foreign Judgment
Blaine Harrison v. Christine Frazier	Petition

Divorce:

Robin Cargil v. Shawn McGahee	Divorce
Alyse Morgan v. Chance Morgan	Divorce
Thomas Lewis v. Marietta Lewis	Divorce
Brittany Whiting v. Christopher Whiting	Divorce
Shields Waggoner Sr., v. Majorie Snyder	Divorce
Katie Corley v. Michael Corley	Divorce
Kena Teal v. Donald Teal	Divorce
Anita Truckner v. Alton Truckner	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Detra Beartusk v. William Sedor	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Angela Fields v. Elijah Taylor	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., State of Arkansas v. Grant Harjo	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Symbie Proctor v. Timothy Jesse	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Misti Embree v. William Murfin	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Terra King v. Christopher King	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kainna Twist v. Eric Starr	Child Support
OCSE ex rel., Amanda Davis v. Aaron Wilson	Child Support
Christopher Menta v. OCSE, ex rel., Alanna Fish	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jessica Fulton v. Cody Fulton	Child Support



**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT**

2011 SEP 26

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
T.H., DOB: 08-21-02)
J.H., DOB: 02-08-05) **Case No JV-2009-02**
A.H., DOB: 08-21-06)
)
Alleged Deprived Children.)

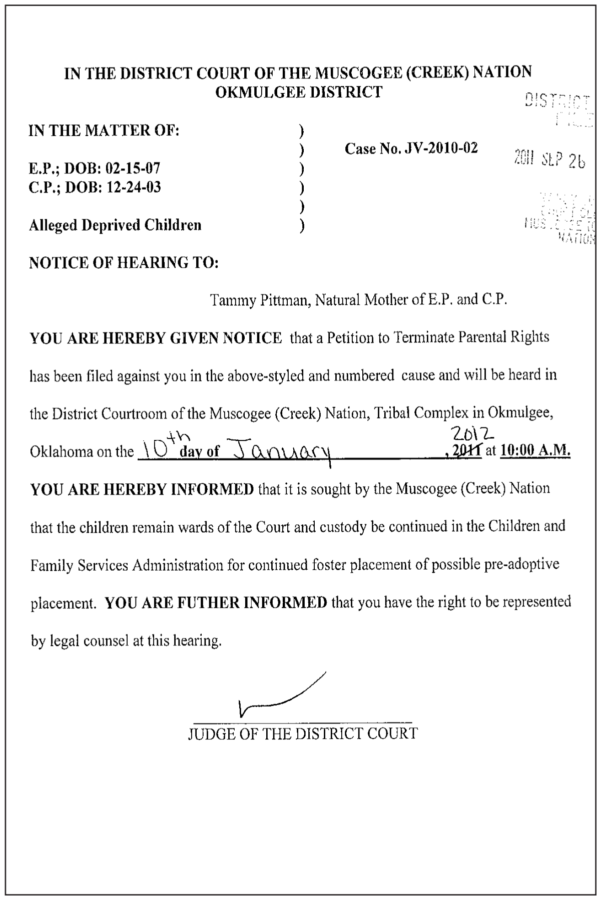
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Allison Harley, Natural Mother

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10th **day of** January **, ~~2011~~ 2012 at 10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT**

2011 SEP 26

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2010-02**
E.P.; DOB: 02-15-07)
C.P.; DOB: 12-24-03)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

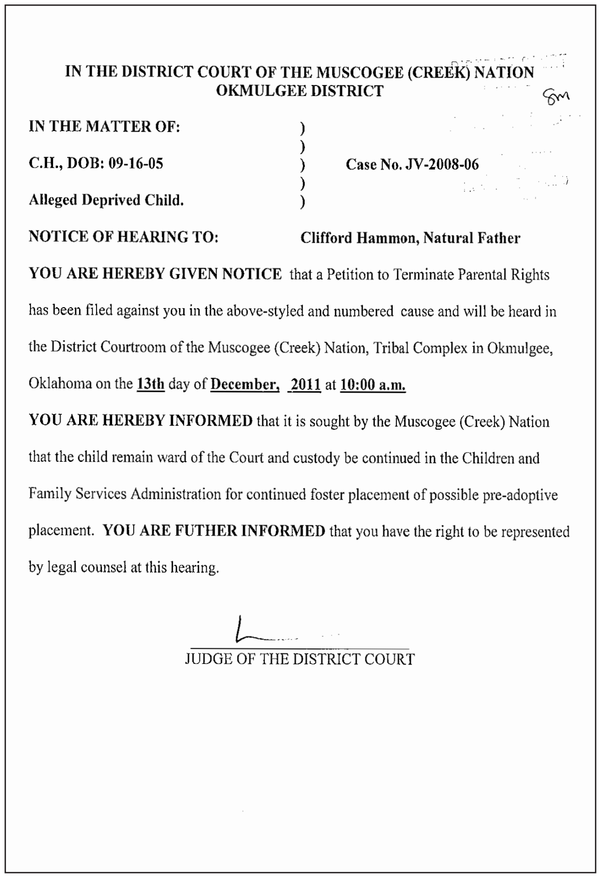
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tammy Pittman, Natural Mother of E.P. and C.P.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10th **day of** January **, ~~2011~~ 2012** at **10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT**

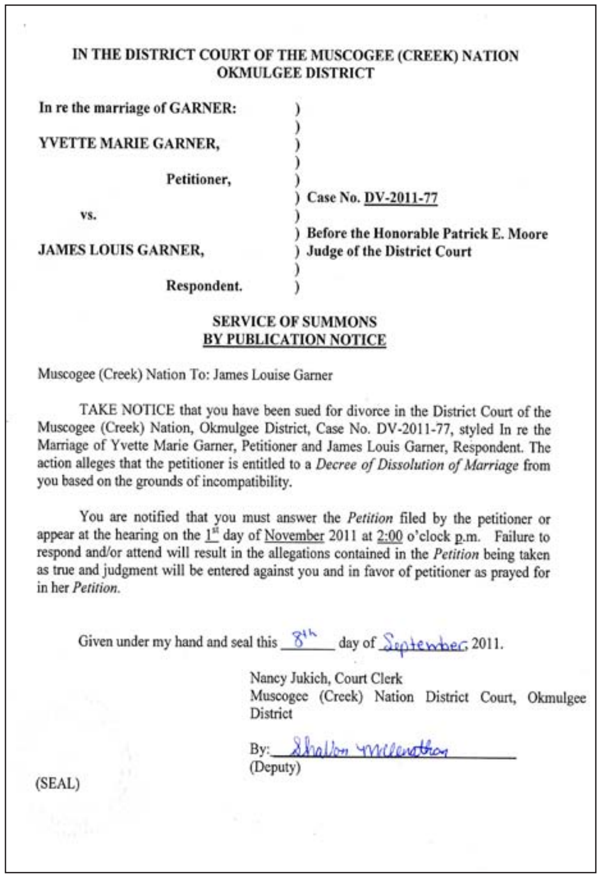
IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
C.H., DOB: 09-16-05) **Case No. JV-2008-06**
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO: **Clifford Hammon, Natural Father**

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th** day of **December, 2011** at **10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT**

In re the marriage of GARNER:)
)
YVETTE MARIE GARNER,)
)
Petitioner,)
) **Case No. DV-2011-77**
vs.)
) **Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore**
JAMES LOUIS GARNER,) **Judge of the District Court**
)
Respondent.)

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: James Louise Garner

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2011-77, styled In re the Marriage of Yvette Marie Garner, Petitioner and James Louis Garner, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 1st day of November 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

SECTION B

FEATURES

Oct. 1, 2011 edition

Shining Orange and Black

• Creek student represents OSU Indian Community

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

STILLWATER — Jordan Harmon is no stranger to being an American Indian title holder. Harmon now represents the American Indian community at Oklahoma State University as the 2011-2012 Miss American Indian OSU princess.

The Muscogee (Creek) student is majoring in multimedia journalism and hopes her career will strengthen communications between the Native community and mainstream media.

“I think there’s a major disparity. . . how they portray Native Americans,” Harmon said.

“I would like to be the one that sets it straight.”

On campus, Harmon is a strong advocate for the American Indian community and for American Indians in education.

“She’s definitely been trying to live out her platform with helping Native youth and I think she’s a doing a really good job,” Valerie Rudman said. Rudman was the 2010-2011 Miss American Indian OSU.

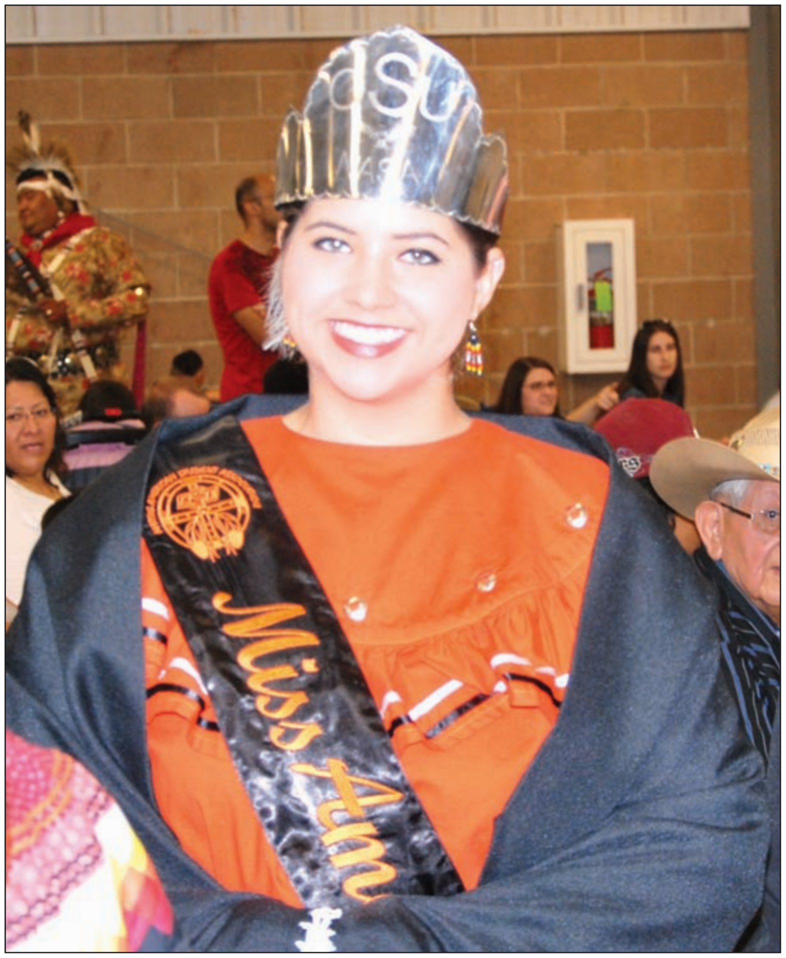
“I believe that education is the key to self-empowerment,” Harmon said.

According to a report published by “Diverse Issues in Higher Education,” Oklahoma State University was named one of the top schools in the country for American Indians to receive their bachelor’s degree.

“Being able to represent the Native students at OSU and be a role model for those that want a college education is very important to me.”

Harmon has held previous titles, including the 2009-2010 Tulsa Pow Wow princess.

“I think she’s a great girl and a great friend,” Hope Harjo said. Harjo succeeded Harmon for the Tulsa Pow Wow Club title. “She represents well.”



MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Miss American Indian OSU, Jordan Harmon, is all smiles for the camera at the Fall 2011 OSU Pow Wow held on Oct. 1, 2011.

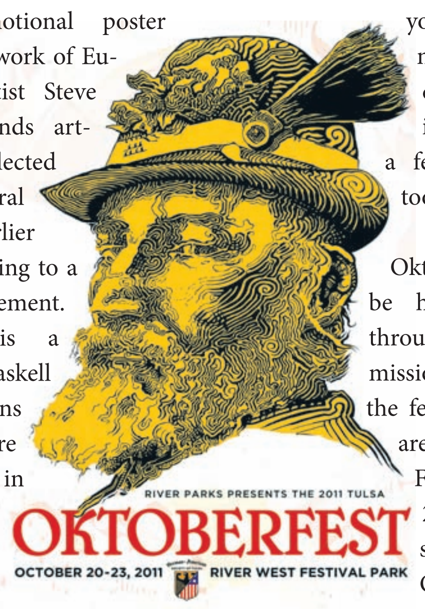
Creek artwork selected for Tulsa’s Oktoberfest poster

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

TULSA — The 2011 Oktoberfest promotional poster will feature the work of Euchee/Navajo artist Steve Grounds. Grounds artwork was selected amongst several applicants earlier this year, according to a press release statement.

Grounds is a graduate of Haskell Indian Nations University, where he majored in American Indian Studies. Grounds has been doing artwork since he was young, but has no formal educational training other than a few classes he took in college.

The 2011 Oktoberfest will be held Oct. 20 through the 23. Admission is $6 and the festival grounds are at River West Festival Park, 2100 S. Jackson Ave., Tulsa, Okla.



Glenpool Indian Community to elect officers Nov. 15

Media Release
MCN Community Development

GLENPOOL — Members of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community interested in filing for candidacy in an elected office must complete a Declaration of Candidacy Form and a Background Check Release Form by Sept. 30, 2011 with the Glenpool Creek Indian Community.

Dates for the election have changed. Any Creek citizen living within the boundaries of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community interested in becoming a member of the community may apply for membership to vote in the upcoming election by Friday, Nov. 4, 2011.

The election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 15.

For more information contact Dianna Billie at (918) 691-6006.

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country:
Sustaining Sovereignty

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Reintegration Program’s Third Annual Toy Drive

B4 CULTURE

Coming and Going in Indian Country

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B6 PEOPLE

Obituary: Svnockv Harjo

Mvskoke Country: *Sustainable Sovereignty*

by James Treat

The following article was originally published in Orion Magazine, a national bimonthly focusing on nature/culture/place. It has also been available on the Mvskoke Country website, but this is the first time it has appeared in the Muscogee Nation News. Two annual growing seasons have come and gone since I profiled MFSI and the Wilson community garden in 2009; you can find more current information at http://www.mvskokefood.org/ and http://wilson-ndn-community.99k.org/garden/garden.html

Mvskoke farmer Barton Williams is in the fields every day now, picking produce from two large plots sponsored by the Wilson Indian Community of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Williams is the community's elected leader; he and several other dedicated volunteers are tending the typical garden fare—cabbage and okra, peppers and tomatoes—while fending off hungry deer, raccoons, squirrels, and insects. They've also planted a couple of distinctively Mvskoke crops: Indian pumpkins, which are good for frying; and safke corn, an heirloom variety used to make a traditional dish similar to hominy. Later in the season, they'll offer low-cost food baskets to local residents. People are already asking when the corn will be in.

Wilson Indian Community is also hosting training sessions with specialists from the state extension service and inviting other growers in the area to attend. The community center is next to the local high school, so this fall they'll erect a greenhouse and get students involved in the effort. And some of the older folks have begun sharing heirloom seeds and laying plans to start a seed bank.

"We didn't realize how big this thing was really going to get," says Rita Williams, Barton's wife. All this in just their first few months as a Community Food Project funded by a small USDA grant, which they secured with the help of the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative.

MFSI formed in 2005 when community activists and tribal government staffers began meeting to discuss the modern food system and the problems it creates for nutrition, health care, elder services, cultural preservation, local economies, and the natural environment. The great seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, adopted in the nineteenth century, features a plow and a sheaf of wheat in an open field, testimony to the ancient agricultural heritage of the Mvskoke people. But the forced allotment of tribal lands a hundred years ago broke up these communal traditions, and today few Mvskokes are involved in producing their own food. Now incorporated as an independent nonprofit, MFSI supports sustainable agriculture, economic development, community organizing, and cultural education among "the Mvskoke people and their neighbors" in eastern Oklahoma.

Food is connected to just about everything else in Mvskoke life, including politics and religion. Many of the matrilineal clans take their name from a game animal, domesticated plant, or other indigenous staple: Ecovlke (Deer clan), Vhvlvkvlke (Sweet Potato clan), and Ocevlke (Hickory Nut clan), for example. The Mvskoke calendar culminates in posketv, known in English as Green Corn, a four-day ceremony celebrating the harvest and the beginning of a new year. And sovereignty is the dominant trope of Indian affairs, at least under the current federalist regime, so it's not surprising that grassroots leaders would associate sustenance with self-determination in launching the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative.

One of the first MFSI projects was a 2006 event on "Food as Medicine," where tribal elders and health experts discussed the nutritional benefits of traditional foods. More recently, their "Return to Your Roots" symposium in the spring of 2009 brought together more than a dozen presenters exploring the historical, cultural, spiritual, and practical aspects of food sovereignty. This landmark event was cosponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and all three branches of tribal government were represented among those who addressed the audience. Indigenous leaders have always worked to sustain tribal sovereignty, and many are now pioneering uniquely indigenous approaches to sustainability in an era of climate crisis.

Heritage farming isn't the only answer, but it's a start—especially in an impoverished, rural corner of Indian country. Earlier this year, MFSI bought a tiller and helped more than thirty area households break ground on family gardens. And they're already working with a second Mvskoke community to establish another communal plot, this one in a county that the Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture has classified as a "food desert," where residents have poor access to supermarkets, much less homegrown produce. With a little rain and some hard work, Mvskoke corn and pumpkins may be sprouting all over the Muscogee (Creek) Nation someday soon.

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

Tourism and Recreation to host annual Council Oak

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

TULSA — The annual Council Oak ceremony is schedule for Oct. 22, 2011. This year, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism and Recreation Department will be hosting the event.

"Tourism and Recreation is very excited to be a part of this special event," Director William Lowe said.

This is the first year Lowe and his office will be responsible for the overall logistics and coordination of the annual event.

The historic council oak tree is located at 18th and Cheyenne in downtown Tulsa.

Tourism and Recreation is still seeking volunteers to help with the ceremony. More information will be provided at a later date.

Any other inquiries, please contact the MCN Tourism and Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- **Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.**
- **Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.**
- **Live within the State of Oklahoma.**
- **Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.**
- **Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.**
- **Be 18 years or older.**
- **Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.**
- **Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.**
- **Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.**

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Reintegration Program Annual Toy Drive

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program will be hosting their third annual Toy Drive. The toy drive will begin on Oct. 10, 2011 and will be taking donations until Dec. 20. Please donate any unwrapped toy for children of any age or sex. If you are unable to locate a drop off location or do not have transportation, please call and arrangements for donations to be picked up can be made.

For more information, please contact Becky Billingsly at (918) 652-2676, ext. 103 or Caressa Lewis at (918) 652-2676, ext. 100. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program is located at 615 E. Corporation St. in Henryetta, Okla.

“Soul in Revival” singing

SALEM — Hickory Ground Baptist Church #1 will host a “Soul in Revival” Oct. 12-14, 2011. Singing will begin each night at 7:30 p.m. The event will feature evangelist Anderson Fields of Vernon, Okla. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact Roman R. Harjo Sr. at (918) 758-0323.

Annual Cultural Day at the Complex

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will host the annual “Cultural Day” Oct. 14, from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. The free event will feature an exhibition stomp dance, stickball, pottery, Creek hymns and food sampling.

A concession will also be available. The event will be held on the south side of the Mound Building on the tribal complex grounds located in Okmulgee at Highway 75 and Loop 56.

For more information, please contact the MCN Office of Child Care at (918) 732-7680 or (800) 205-3705.

Haikey Chapel Taco Sale

TULSA — Haikey Chapel will be having an Indian taco sale Oct. 15, 2011. The tacos will be sold for $7,which includes a drink. The location of the taco sale will be at 8815 E. 101st St. in Tulsa. For more information, please contact the Haikey Chapel secretary, Sandra Chisholm at sancrandall@yahoo.com

Second Annual NE Region Gospel Singing

PRESTON — The second annual Northeast Region Gospel Singing will be held at the United Methodist Church in Preston Oct. 15, 2011. Dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. The singing will begin at 7 p.m.

The master of ceremonies for the event will be the Rev. David Little.

For more information, please contact Sunrise Ross at (918) 408-8554 or Pat Tah at (918) 939-9078.

MCN annual Fall Carnival

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will host a Fall Carnival Oct. 21, 2011 from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. The carnival will be held on the tribal complex grounds located in Okmulgee at Highway 75 and Loop 56. There will be prizes, games and food for all ages.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Jessica Action at (918) 732-7673.

Smith Family Reunion

CARSON — The Smith family reunion will be held on Oct. 22, 2011 beginning at 9 a.m. The reunion will be at Billy Ray Smith’s home in Carson, Okla. A potluck meal will be at 11 a.m. Family members are asked to bring a covered dish, door prize, cake for the cakewalk and old family pictures.

Activities include volleyball, horseshoes, door prizes, a raffle for a family quilt and a talent show. The best talent will receive a $25 cash prize.

For more information, please contact any of the following: Wisey J. Givens (918) 716-0074, Carmen McGirt (918) 716-8854 or Billy Ray Smith (918) 656-3521.

Reintegration Program Coat Drive

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program is hosting their first annual coat drive. They are still taking donations of new or gently used coats. Donations can be dropped off at the MCN Reintegration program or arrangements can be made to have them picked up.

For more information, please contact Becky Bilingsly at (800) 259-1059 or (918) 652-2676.

Concharty Fish Fry and Flea Market

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee, will host a Fish Fry and flea market at the Twin Hills Creek Indian Community Center.

The flea market will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 22 and the fish fry will be held from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Concharty UMC’s general fund.

The Twin Hills Community Center is located at the intersection of Highway 16 and 52.

For more information, please call. (918) 366-8450 or visit the website at: www.kvncate.com

Concharty Annual Fall Festival

OKMULGEE — Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee, will host a free carnival with games, food and fun for the whole family on Oct. 29, 2011.

Activities begin at 4 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

For more information, please call. (918) 366-8450 or visit the website at: www.kvncate.com

Okla. Haskell Alumni Association Reunion

STROUD — The Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma will be hosting a One-Day Reunion Nov. 5, 2011. The reunion will be held at the Sac & Fox Tribal Community Center located in Stroud, Okla. All Haskell alumni are invited to attend. There will be a golf scramble.

For more information on the golf scramble, please contact Dan Little Axe at (405) 13-8443. For any other questions, please contact Carmen Ketcher at (918) 333-7483 or email at mscarmen2009@hotmail.com. RV and camp grounds are available. Please contact Carmen for rates.

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES NAVY VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans the VASO will be hosting

“MOVIE NIGHT”
Thursday, 13 October 2011

To Celebrate
The Birth Month Of The Navy (13 October 1775)

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 13 October 2011
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **“U-571” (with Bill Paxton, Matthew McConaughey & Harvey Keitel)**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Free! (Navy Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest)
- Muscogee Navy Veterans are allowed to bring one adult guest. (Please limit to only one adult guest)
- “MOVIE NIGHT” is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one adult guest)
- Any questions call Delana Bear-Hicks at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7744

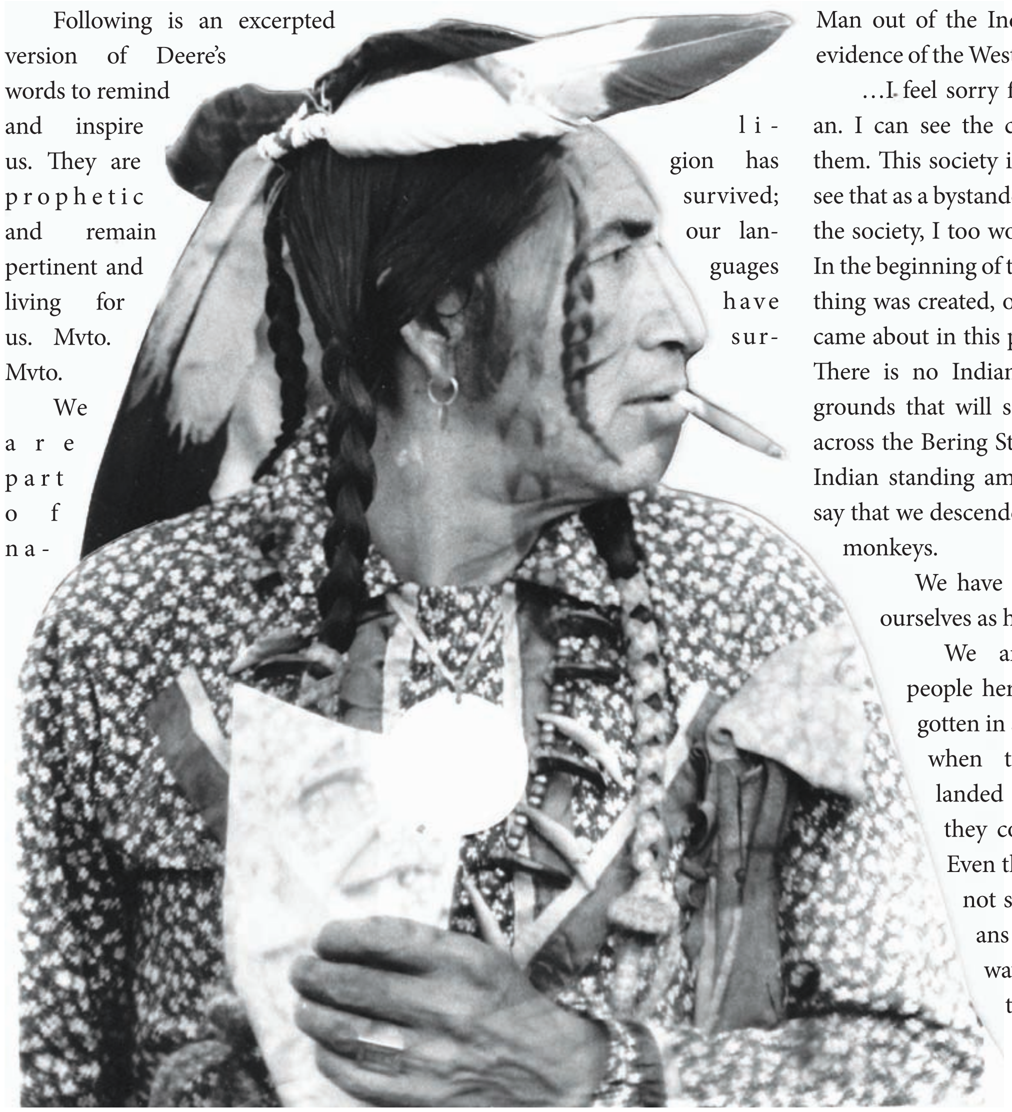
Coca-Cola
Diet Coke
Coca-Cola
Coke
Splenda

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

We are beginning the season of transformation. It is the time to bring in the harvest. The squirrels in my mother's neighborhood in Tulsa are putting away for winter. We are all reaping what we have sown. This is happening at many levels of our existence.

I remember our beloved Mvskoke person Phillip Deere 's words as many of us stood together at America's Capitol at the end point of The Longest Walk the summer of 1978. This time marked the end of a long walk of a protest of indigenous peoples to the Capitol, to make our presence known, to once again come to the face of colonized power to address them, one human being to another.



Following is an excerpted version of Deere's words to remind and inspire us. They are prophetic and remain pertinent and living for us. Mvto. Mvto.

We are part of nature. Our pipes are red. Our faces, many times, we paint red. But we represent the Creation. We hear about Red Power. There are many definitions to Red Power.

Sometimes we refer to Red as the blood. But all colors of Man have the same color of blood. The fish life, they have blood also. The animals, too, have red blood. Everyone has red blood. But everyone was not made out of the red clay of America.

Only the Indian people are the original people of America. Our roots are buried deep in the soils of America. We are the only people who have continued with the oldest religion in this country. We are the people who still yet speak the languages given to us by the Creator. Our religion has survived; our languages have survived.

Long before this building (the Capital) was built, my ancestors talked the language that I talk today…I see, in the future, perhaps this civilization is coming near to the end. For that reason, we have continued with the instructions of our ancestors. We are the only people who know how to survive in this country. We have existed here for thousands and thousands of years. The smartest man in America does not know and cannot date the time that we originated.

This is our homeland. We came from no other country. Regardless of how many millions and millions of dollars are spent on an Indian, to make him someone else, all these millions have failed to make a White Man out of the Indian. We are the evidence of the Western Hemisphere!

…I feel sorry for the non-Indian. I can see the confusion among them. This society is confused. I can see that as a bystander…If I were with the society, I too would be confused. In the beginning of time, when everything was created, our ancestors also came about in this part of the world. There is no Indian here, on these grounds that will say that we came across the Bering Straits. There is no Indian standing among us who will say that we descended from apes and monkeys.

We have always looked at ourselves as human beings…

We are the original people here…We have forgotten in a short time what when the first people landed on our shores, they could not survive. Even the pilgrims could not survive. The Indians showed them the way of survival. We taught them how to live.

We taught them how to plant corn. That corn was a Tree of Life for us. We showed them that this is life here in America. And they survived.

Not too many years afterwards, foreign agents came to our house and tried to tell us how to farm. Not too many years afterwards, they began to tell us how to live. They began to tell us that our religion was wrong; our way of life was no good. This is not the agreement that we made. This is not the treaty that we made with the U.S. government, or any other country…. We had an unchanging government. The law of love, peace, and respect, no man-made laws will ever take the place of it! And this is the law that we have always lived by.

Because we understood this law, every Indian door was open. Through these doors walked Christopher Columbus. Through these doors walked the Pilgrims, because of that law of love and respect that we had for all human beings.

But time changed. After entering our door, they took advantage of the Native people here. Their greed -- we have seen it. Many of our people have died. Many of our people were massacred because they wanted more land. We gave them land through treaties. We gave and we gave, and we have no more to give today!

Not only land was taken, even the culture, even the religion, under man-made laws, were taken away from the Native people. But we managed to survive. We continued with our way of life.

The jailhouses, the prisons in this country, are no more than four hundred years old. Prior to the coming of Columbus, more than four hundred tribes, speaking different languages, having different ways, having different religions, lived here. None of these tribes had jailhouses. They had no prison walls. They had no insane asylums. No country today can exist without them! Why did we not have any prisons? Why did we not have jailhouses or insane asylums? Because we lived by an understood law.

We understood what life is all about. To this day, we are not confused. My elders, spiritual leaders, medicine men, clan mothers, have no disagreements. We are not that confused. We come to you with one mind. We do not disagree on our religion. I have never tried to convert the Lakota people into Muskogee ways.

On every corner there is a church, each of them trying to convert the other one. We did not come here with that kind of confusion. We respect one another's religion. We respect one another's visions. That is our only way of existing in this country here -- that is our survival. This is our strength. Even though we are greatly outnumbered, our ideas will overcome those numbers!

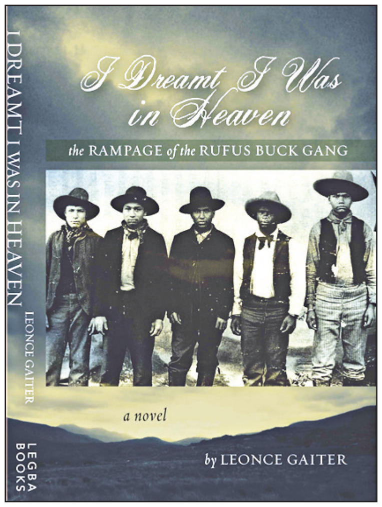
People in this society have been driven away, and have been taken away so far from reality that they will not sit down under a tree and talk to us. They won't even sit down in their office to listen to the Indian. We have experienced this all this time, even in the local offices at home. Those who are holding positions through the government refuse to listen to the grassroots Indians because they have been so far away from that natural way of thinking. They have to look at a piece of paper and get directions from the higher-ups. Even their minds are controlled. They can't make decisions for themselves.

…Every tribe has a trail of tears. We wonder when it is going to end. I would like to see the time come when we can act like human beings and be able to sit around and iron our problems out.

…Your life is at stake. Your survival depends on this…

Creek author highlights saga in Oklahoma Native history

Media Release
LEGBA Books



CHICAGO — In the summer of 1895, terror gripped the Indian Territories (today's Oklahoma). The youthful, multi-racial Rufus Buck gang was on the rampage, terrorizing and assaulting anyone in its path. Their goal: to expel whites from Indian Territory. Gang leader Rufus Buck was half-black and half Creek Indian. The rest of the gang was composed of one African-American, and three full-blooded Creeks. The idea of a multi-racial gang banding together in 1895 may seem strange, but turn-of-the-century Indian Territory was a multi-racial place.

A new novel by Leonce Gaiter entitled I Dreamt I Was in Heaven - The Rampage of the Rufus Buck Gang (http://www.buckrampage.com), explores the Buck gang rampage amidst the rainbow of ethnicities on both sides of the law in the lawless Indian Territory.

"I had first read about the gang almost twenty years ago," says author Gaiter, whose novel Bourbon Street was published by Carroll & Graf and whose non-fiction has appeared in publications from "The New York Times" to "The Huffington Post."

"The story immediately grabbed me. The novelty of a 19th century multi-racial gang that some say were teenagers seemed remarkable. It was also remarkable to me that their aim was to end the theft of Indian Territory. They were fighting back. You don't hear many stories in American history of the black and brown victims fighting back."

With further research, Gaiter learned more about the complex relationship between black freedmen and the Creek Indians dating back 100 years.

In 1895, black freedmen towns dotted the Indian Territory. Blacks were lawmen as well as outlaws. The novel portrays the famous outlaw Cherokee Bill (aka Crawford Goldsby), who was half-black and devoted to the African-American grandmother who raised him. One of the Territory's principal deputy U.S. marshals was a black man named Bass Reeves. The Buck gang's first victim was a black lawman.

"Once you get into it," Gaiter says, "and start reading about Indian outlaws like Ned Christie being hunted down by the lawmen of the Indian Creek Lighthorse, the infamous white 'Hanging Judge' Isaac Parker working directly with the black U.S. deputy marshal Bass Reeves as they hunt and prosecute, black, white and red outlaws—it's kind of dizzying. And then you add the fact that more and more whites were flocking to the Territories. That's because the U.S. government was instituting policies that would guarantee that the Indians would lose their land. It was just an amazing period, and the story of the Rufus Buck gang reflects a large swath of it."

Gaiter hopes that the novel will help loosen up minorities' views of their own history. "We've fallen into this ditch in which our histories are defined by others and limited to views of us as saints and victims. We are infinitely more than that. I think it's dehumanizing to accept such a limitation that's been slapped on us by others.

The Buck Gang was a product of its time, and they were no saints. Their cause was just, but their methods were abhorrent. They are, however, a great piece of history and a fantastic window onto a incredibly compelling and tragic American era."

October is Domestic Violence Month

I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL WHO REFUSES TO BE A VICTIM. I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL WHO'S TIRED OF BEING IGNORED AND HUMORED AND BEATEN AND RAPED. I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL WHO KNOWS THAT THIS BODY AND THIS MIND ARE MINE. I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL WHO KNOWS THAT YOU ONLY HAVE AS MUCH POWER AS I GRANT YOU. I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL WHO FIGHTS BACK. FIGHT LIKE A GIRL!

FIGHT
like a girl!

There will be door prizes and a limited number of t-shirts

Come hear a panel of Professionals speak on their experience working with victims of Domestic Violence

2 P.M. ~ October 26, 2011
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Complex - Mound Building
Hwy 75 @ Loop 56
Okmulgee 74447
For more information contact Tania Bardin at (918)732-7869

Donations to the local domestic violence shelter are appreciated but not required.

Supported by OVWFE 08 Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Discretionary Grant Program Award # 2008-TW-AX-0001 and Rural Grant Award #2010 WR-AX-0004

OBITUARIES

BELLA MAE BUCKLEY

OKLAHOMA CITY — Bella Mae Buckley was born February 12, 1948 near Wetumka, Okla., to Louis Buckley and Delia Albert Buckley and passed from this life Sept. 20, 2011 at her home in Oklahoma City at the age of 63.

Ms. Buckley spent her earliest years in the Wetumka area and attended Wetumka grade school. She moved with her family to Oklahoma City as a young lady and it was there that she continued her education, graduating from U.S. Grant High School. She was married to Hank Williams in about 1970 and to this union two sons were born, Christopher and Terry. She was later married to Mr. Keys and they resided in several areas including, Springfield, Mo., Chicago, Ill., and Wisconsin, finally settling in Tulsa for a while.

She had retnrned to Oklahoma City some 10 years ago. Mr. Keys preceded her in death in about 1995. She was also preceded in death by three brothers, Louis Wayne, Alan Gene, and Wadie Lee Buckley, a sister Mary Hobia, and her son Christopher just last year.

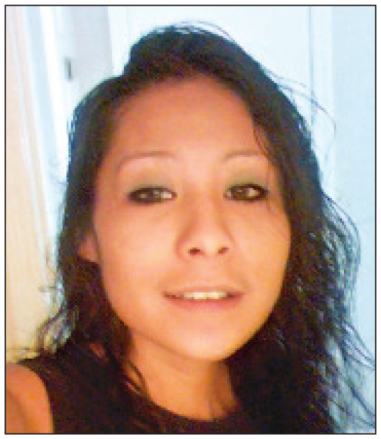
Bella enjoyed watching television and going to casinos. She was a member of Sand Creed Baptist Church and was raised by a Godly mother. She never forgot her religious upbringing.

Survivors include; a son Terry Williams; two brothers, Edward Nick Buckley of North Carolina and Harry Linell Buckley of Oklahoma City; two sisters Tsiannina Hounarmand and Bernice (Tinky) Buckley of Oklahoma City; along with several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services will be Saturday, Sept. 24, at 2 p.m., at the Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Harry Anderson, pastor, officiating.

Interment will be in the Sand Creek Cemetery under the direction of Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home.

SVNOCKV HARJO



OKLAHOMA CITY — Svnockv was born at the Indian Hospital in Ada, Oklahoma on Aug. 22, 1988. She was three minutes older than her twin sister, Dora. After they were born people lined up at the nursery to see the first Indian twins born at the hospital.

Svnockv was named after her great grandmother's nickname for "someone who sleeps a lot" and as a baby she did sleep a lot. She was an easy going child who adored her sisters and family.

Growing up, Svnockv spent summers with her grandmother, Lettie, and loved going to church and learning Creek hymns. She loved to sing in Creek so much her grandmother gave her a Creek hymnal that she treasured.

Svnockv had a natural gift for drawing. She drew in pencil and ink - mainly Indian designs. Beginning in middle school Svnockv was placed in the Gifted and Talented Program at Putnam City Public Schools. She graduated Putnam City West and once dreamed of being a doctor. She wanted to deliver babies.

Svnockv took the college entrance exams and scored very high, she was so excited and proud that her score was better than her mother's. She attended Rose State College for 1 year before becoming sidetracked on other personal issues.

Svnockv was a lovely person to be around, she was beautiful, but very shy. Once you got to know her she would talk your ear off and show how funny and crazy she could be.

Svnockv Harjo was baptized at Creek Chapel Methodist Church on July 30, 2000 and was a life long member of Creek Chapel. She read her Bible several times a day and attended church regularly. She is survived by her older sisters Desirae Golden and Kim Harjo, a brother David Harjo Jr., twin sister, Dora Harjo, her mother, Brenda Golden, father, David Harjo, Grandmothers Lettie Randall an Lucinda Harjo, Grandfather Eugene "Goon" Golden and lots and lots of cousins, aunts, uncles, 3 nieces and 1 nephew. She loved spending time with her family and she will be greatly missed.

At her funeral we sang her favorite songs, Hesaketvmese Likes (God our Creator), Oketv Cvmposat (The Sweet Bye and Bye), Will There Be Stars in My Crown, and I'll Fly Away. I knew she was with us singing along and smiling.

I greatly, greatly appreciate Kathryn Hatcher, Barbara Low, Cindi Beach Lamarr, George Tiger, Marilyn Grammar Yarbrough, Sharon Laquier, Katrina Gleason Stephenson, Renee Micco, Mari Yeahquo, Jo Sanders Harjo, Lamont Frazier, Ben Barresi, Don Guitteriez, Kathy Wesho Bauer, Russ Letica, Michelle Shining Elk, Saginaw Grant, Kenny Frost, Tom Manzitti, Kathy Miranda, Yolanda White Antelope, Phillip Deere, James Donelson, Judy Powell, Brittney Yarholar, Cherie Jacobs, Billie Fidlin, The Golden Family, The Harjo Girls, The Harjo Family, The Jimboy Family, Edwin Jimboy, Helen Fixico and Lou Jean Fixico, Billy Hooten UMC, Creek Chapel members.

- Brenda Golden, mother

THANK YOU

GOLDEN FAMILY

I would like to thank the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the burial assistance provided for my daughter, Svnockv Lettie Harjo, on July 30, 2011.

Also, a big thank you to George Tiger for standing by me through the darkest days of my loss and helping me through it with his presence. Thanks to Creek Chapel Indian Methodist Church and their members for all the support and love to me and my family during this time.

I am sure my daughter is walking the streets of gold with her Aunt Minnie Beaver, Step Father Bruce "Bingy" Randall, and Grandmother Annie Marsey Scott Harjo.

Mvto to everyone for their thoughts and prayers.

- Brenda Golden

Send us your lifestyle news

To submit obituaries or announcements, please mail to:

MCN
Communications
PO Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK 74447

or email:
LeeL@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

If you would like your photos returned, please specify.

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Bob McLemore
Patty Fletcher-McLemore

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CHEYENNE POWELL

TUTTLE — Cheyene Powell, a 15 year old sophomore at Tuttle High School, played in the USSA 18 and under Division A Nationals tournament held in Kansas City. She plays for the girls' fast-pitch softball team, Tuttle Magic; a competitive travel team consisting of all Tuttle girls. Powell was voted MVP and have an over-the-fence home run during the tournament.

Powell is a pitcher for the Tuttle High School Tigers. Earlier this season, the team returned from playing in the Festival of Champions tournament in Eerie, Colo. The tournament was a multi-state high school tournament consisting of teams that have won state championships in recent seasons.

Powell is the daughter of Bryant and Michelle Powell. She is the granddaughter of Ken and Janice Hardy, Tim Tidwell and Reg and Gaye Thompson. Powell is of the Alligator Clan.

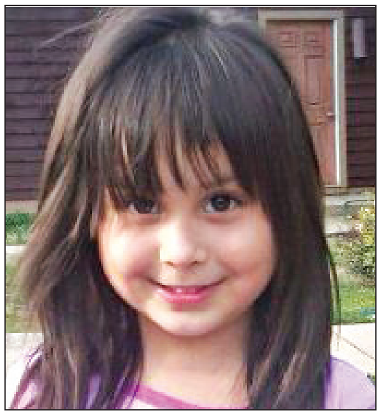
BETSEY TARYOLE

HENRYETTA — Betsy Taryole was honored by Henryetta Elementary School in 2011 for her service as volunteer coordinator for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson O'Malley Program.

Taryole serves as JOM coordinator while also balancing her duties as secretary at the school. She received a plaque for her service.

BIRTHDAYS

KIA KOUMOUTSEAS



OKLAHOMA CITY — Kia Long Koumoutseas celebrated her fifth birthday in June with her family in Oklahoma City, Okla. Koumoutseas is the daughter of Lisa Long and Nick Koumoutseas. She is the granddaughter of Stella Dyer Long and the late Fred Long.

Koumoutseas' great-grandparents were George Long and Nancy (Scott) Long. She is a descendant of Tulmarthla Micco. Koumoutseas is a member of Thlopthlocco Tribal town.

Koumoutseas loves to talk and eat sofkey, just like her grandfather.

MCN Communications booking senior portraits

Media Release
MNN Staff

OKMULGEE — The MCN Photography Department offers quality photos for citizens at an affordable price.

Senior pictures and family portraits are available in-studio or on-location throughout the Creek Nation jurisdictional boundaries.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Mallory Bible at (918) 732-7639.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: __________________________
Theme of the party:______________________
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ______________________________
Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: __________________________
Name of Hospital: _______________________
Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces_____inches
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

HALLOWEEN
CREEK NATION
Casino
MUSCOGEE

October 31st | 7PM

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

1st Place - $1,000. 2nd Place - $750.
3rd Place - $500. 4th Place - $150.
5th Place - $100

October 31st | 4PM - 9PM

$10 Match Play.

$100 Free Play Hot Seat Drawings at 4:30PM, 5PM, 5:30PM, 6PM, and 6:30PM

HALLOWEEN BINGO SPECIAL

2 for 1 Special. Buy 1 pack, get 1 free. Senior Citizen's 55 & older receive a free paper pack. $8 pays $300. Halloween candy for every bingo player.

3420 W. PEAK BLVD. MUSKOGEE OK 74401
918.683.1825 creeknationcasino.net
Look for us on facebook and twitter under 'LUCK STRIKES HERE'

LUCKSTRIKESHERE!

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Oct. 15, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 16

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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Absentee requests extended

• Voters may submit requests via mail, fax or email until Oct. 21

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Registered Muscogee (Creek) voters can still register and vote by an absentee ballot. An extension has been made to allow absentee ballot requests to be accepted until midnight on Oct. 21, CST. The extension came after Leon Hamilton filed a writ of mandamus against the Election Board in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, according to court records. Hamilton claimed that he was denied his constitutional right to vote as an absentee voter in the Sept. 17 Primary Election, held earlier this year.

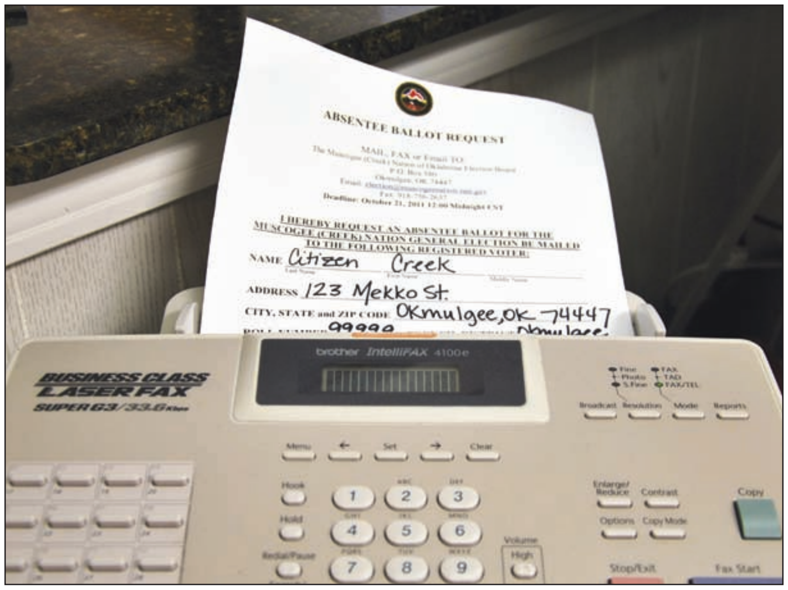
On Oct. 10, a supplemental order was entered with an agreed order that was negotiated by both parties. The Election Board will now accept absentee ballot requests until Oct. 21.

The Election Board will accept absentee ballot requests through the mail, fax, email or via hand delivery to the Election Board office.

Absentee ballot request forms can be found online at the tribal website or requested by phone, email or fax. This agreement comes just under a month away from the General Election set for Nov. 5.

The Election Board wants registered voters who already requested and voted by absentee ballot in the Sept. 17 election to know that they do not have to request another ballot. Requested absentee ballots will be mailed Oct. 17.

For more information or to update your address, please contact the Election Board.



MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters may now request an absentee ballot until Oct. 21, 2011 via fax, mail, email or hand-delivery. Precinct voters will go to the polls Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011 for the General Election.

Election Board
Phone: (918) 732-7631
Toll Free: (800) 482-1979, ext. 7683, 7684, 7685 and 7631
Fax: (918) 756-2637
Email: election@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Website: muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Survivors and friends celebrate life at Pink Party

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Over 600 guests filled Covelle Hall at Oklahoma State University - Okmulgee campus on Oct. 5, 2011 to attend the annual "Pink Party." Forty-two of the registered guests were survivors of breast cancer. October is designated as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month." For the past nine years, an annual conference on promoting breast cancer awareness has been sponsored by the Okmulgee Indian Health Center Division of Women's Health.

SEE PINK - A6

Council Oak Ceremony set for Oct. 22

Media Release
Tourism & Recreation Department

TULSA — The annual Council Oak ceremony is schedule for Oct. 22, 2011 located at 1750 South Cheyenne Ave., in downtown Tulsa

Following the Council Oak Ceremony, everyone is welcome to attend activities at the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center located at 8611 S. Union in Tulsa beginning at 3:30 p.m., with a social stickball game. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m., and will be provided by Ueokofke Ceremonial Ground. A stompdance will follow.

Arts and crafts vendors are welcome to set up free of charge outside of the TCIC Center starting at noon, however, vendors must bring their own tables and chairs and space is available on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, please contact the MCN Tourism and Recreation Department at (918) 732-7992.

A2 LEGAL
Letters to the Editor

A3 LEGAL
Letter from the Editor

A4 VETERANS
Veterans' Scoop

A5 LOCAL
Sam's Club night set for Sunday, Oct. 23

A8 ELECTION
October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month
FIGHT

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF

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Reporter - Gary Fife
Reporter - Lee Longhorn
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Circulation - Wilma Murphy

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letters to the editor

Cecil Johnson fondly remembered by California Creeks

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — I would like to pass my sincerest condolences to the family of Cecil Johnson.

While his passing is a terribly sad event, myself and many others will take solace in remembering how he lived and how special he was to us that knew him. I came to know Mr. Cecil Johnson through the California Muscogee Creek Association at one of our inaugural meetings in the Los Angeles area in 1999.

He and his wife Fannie were extremely friendly to everyone and always led our opening and closing prayers in the Mvskoke language. I began to learn to read, write and speak the Mvskoke language around that same time and through my cousin and fellow C.M.C.A. member Billy Lunsford, I began to form a personal relationship with Cecil Johnson. He eventually invited Billy and I to his home in Cudahy Calif., for personal in-depth Mvskoke/Creek speaking lessons and to teach us prayers and sing Creek songs.

I remember the first song we all sang together at his home, ESTE HOPELKV AHUEKAN EMAPOHICVKES (Hark from the tombs) and the layers of positive energy it created in getting us to absorb all the teachings of him and his wife Fannie.

In between the songs and the language lessons he would break format to tell us a story about his upbringing or about his parents and grandparents. I remember how vividly he would describe in Creek and English stories from his past. He had an amazing way of telling a story and making you feel like you were actually there in the event that he was describing. He smiled reminiscing about his younger days as a baseball player and even told us the story of how his father who was born Yuna Hopie was forced to take the more American sounding surname of Johnson at the tent of his enrollment on the Dawes Rolls.

I can remember going to Okla., annually to visit family and friends and talking with other elders in Mvskoke and they would almost always ask who taught me to speak Creek so well and while I told them I had many different teachers, my main teacher was Mr. Cecil Johnson.

They all knew him and held him in as high regard as I did. When he had Fannie moved back to Okla., for good around 2006, I was sad that we would not be able to go to his home and learn the way we did just a few years earlier but I was glad that I was able to absorb the knowledge I did in the wonderful times we did spend together. He was truly a piece of living history and I hope I can do a fraction of the job of passing on the Mvskoke culture to others as he did to me. My life is certainly much, much better for having known him and Fannie. He will be sorely missed but Never, ever forgotten. Ecenokkecis Puca!

— Brian D. "Semvnacke
Tafhvmken" Worthy
Research Officer,
California Muscogee (Creek) Assn.

Clarification of Thlopthlocco election information

OKEMAH — In the Sept. 15, 2011 issue of the MNN, the Media Release purportedly sent by the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town stated that the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Election was set for Oct. 22,2011.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court has stayed this Thlopthlocco Tribal Town election date of Oct. 22,2011, pursuant to Anderson, et al., v Burden et. al., No. SC-11-11.

In addition, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Election Committee never authorized or issued this media release on Thlopthlocco Tribal Town elections. Therefore, the information in this release is invalid since it did not originate from the official Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Election Committee or the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town government.

At issue in Anderson et. al., v Burden et. al., is that Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Election Committee objects to any exercise of jurisdiction by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation courts over the conduct of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Election.

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town is a separate, federally recognized sovereign tribe and is a non-member of the Muscogee(Creek) Nation. As such, no court of the Creek Nation judiciary has jurisdiction over the internal sovereign activities involved in the conduct of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Election.

As a result, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Election Committee postponed the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town election set for Oct. 22, 2011 and prior to that on Jan. 29, 2011 until the issues of Thlopthlocco Tribal Town sovereignty were resolved including Thlopthlocco Tribal Town's ability to control its sovereign internal election process without interference from other Indian tribes or court systems.

— George Scott,
Mekko,
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

Citizen looks for connection with Creek heritage

COALINGA, Calif., — Dearest Family at the Muscogee Nation News,

I am sending this letter to you as a respectful thank you, extended to each of you at the publication.

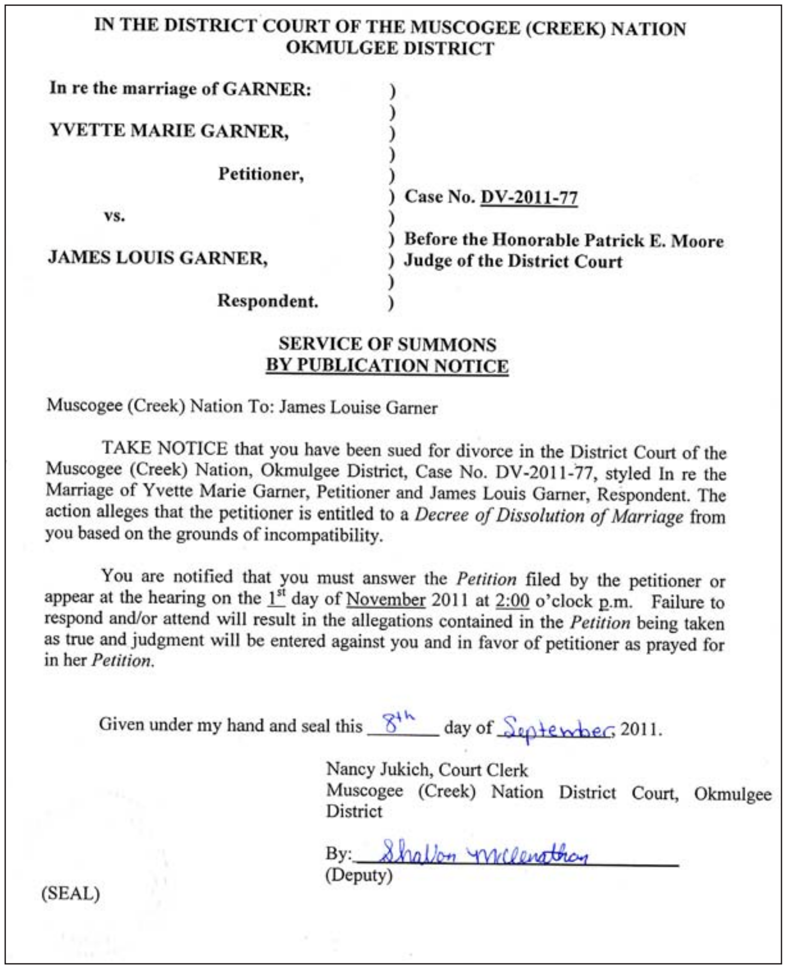
I am a registered brother of the Nation that is currently incarcerated in a California state prison. I am soon to be released and as I am so far away from our people, it gets pretty hard to feel a part of anything. I am receiving the newsletter. I must say... you all are an encouragement to me.

A lot of the words are hard for me to decipher. I was wondering if by chance you could find anything to help me with our language. I am very eager in learning it. I am always trying to get as involved in the history, language and heritage of the Creek Nation.

I understand that you all are very busy and may not have the time or resources to help me with my language research. I just thought I'd ask. I will be forever be indebted to each and every one of you for the help that you have given me by taking time to create a newsletter that takes me out of here. It takes me to the Nation. I love the pictures and all the articles.

Keep up the good work! You are an inspiration to a lot of people.

Respectfully with thanks,
Steve Miller



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of GARNER:)
)
YVETTE MARIE GARNER,)
)
Petitioner,)
) **Case No. DV-2011-77**
vs.)
) **Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore**
JAMES LOUIS GARNER,) **Judge of the District Court**
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: James Louise Garner

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2011-77, styled In re the Marriage of Yvette Marie Garner, Petitioner and James Louis Garner, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

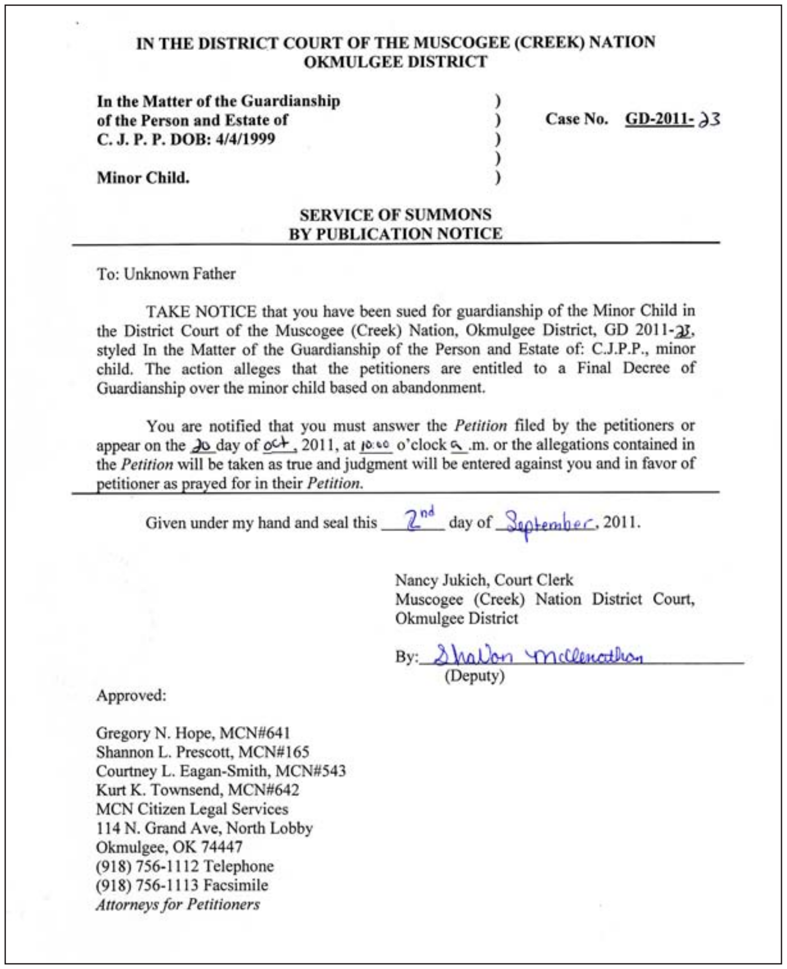
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 1st day of November 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathon
(Deputy)

(SEAL)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Person and Estate of) **Case No. GD-2011-23**
C. J. P. P. DOB: 4/4/1999)
)
Minor Child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Unknown Father

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2011-23, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: C.J.P.P., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioners are entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioners or appear on the 20 day of oct, 2011, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in their *Petition*.

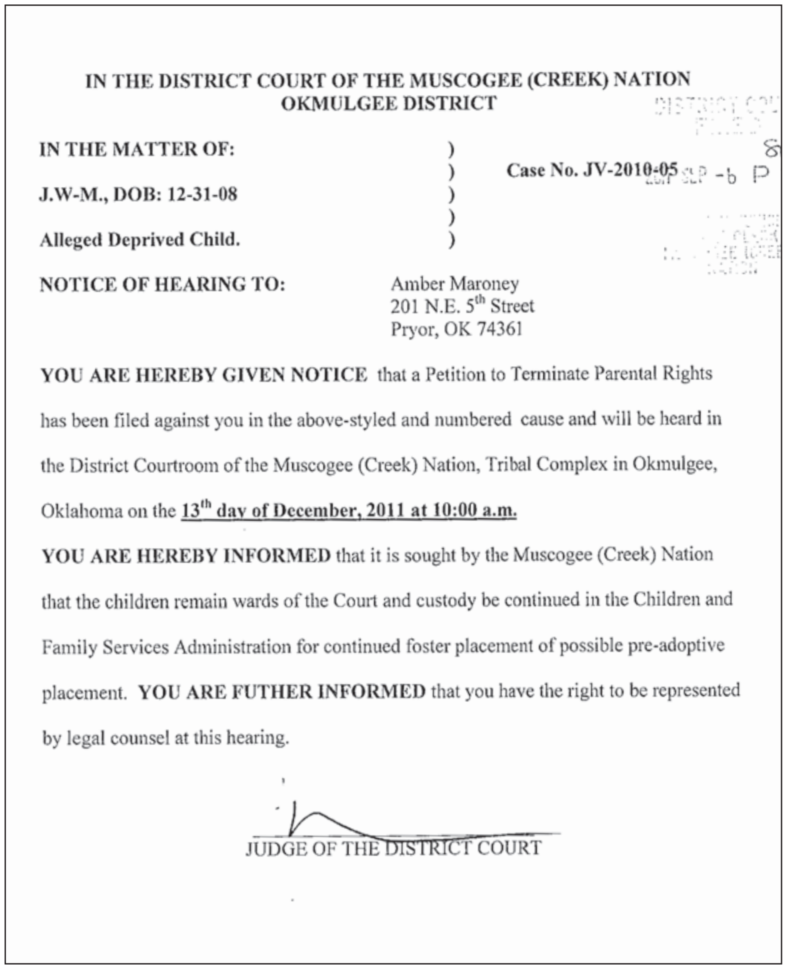
Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of September, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathon
(Deputy)

Approved:

Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioners



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

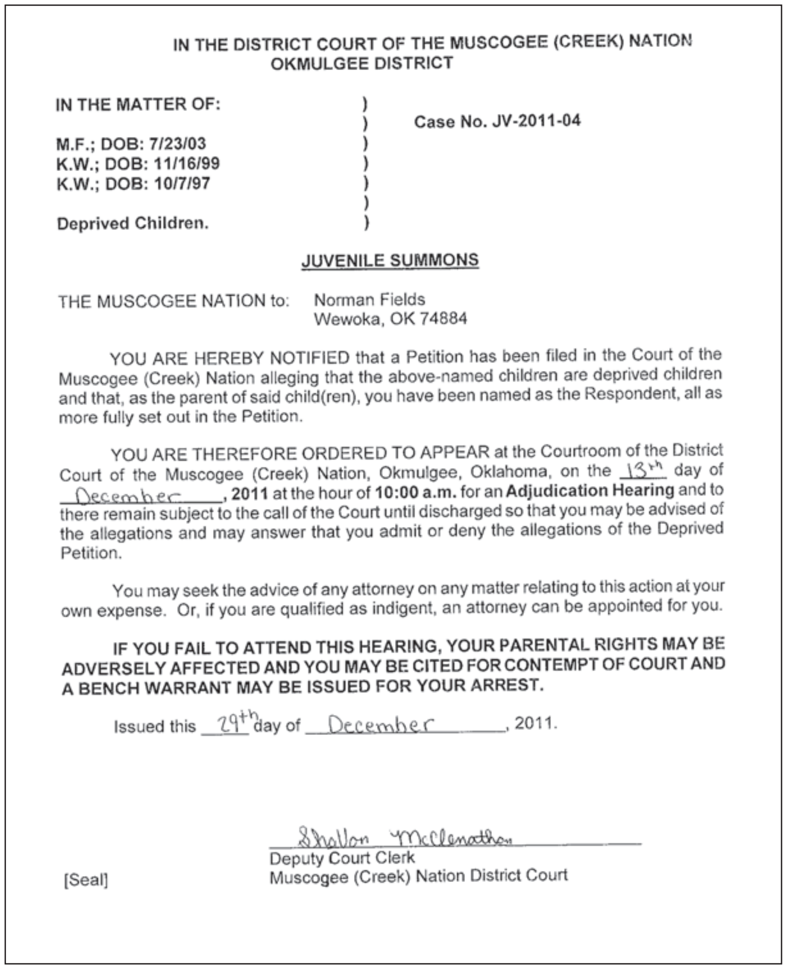
IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2010-05**
J.W-M., DOB: 12-31-08)
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:
Amber Maroney
201 N.E. 5th Street
Pryor, OK 74361

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2011-04**
M.F.; DOB: 7/23/03)
K.W.; DOB: 11/16/99)
K.W.; DOB: 10/7/97)
)
Deprived Children.)

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to:
Norman Fields
Wewoka, OK 74884

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named children are deprived children and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 13th day of December, **2011** at the hour of **10:00 a.m.** for an **Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 29th day of December, 2011.

Shallon McClenathon
Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

[Seal]

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Here it is, the last edition of the MNN that will arrive before the Muscogee (Creek) Nation conducts the General Election Nov. 5, 2011. We have included the run-off candidates' photos and districts on A7-A8. Polls will be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m., and a complete list of locations is also available on A8.

Voters may now request an absentee ballot until midnight Oct. 21, 2011 and will still be eligible to vote in the General Election, even if they had not previously voted in the Primary Election.

There are also a few community candidate debates scheduled for later this month including one in Eufaula on Thursday, Oct. 27 and Holdenville Saturday, Oct. 29 beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Also this month, let's remember those who have fought breast cancer and battled domestic violence. Don't forget to sport your pink and purple for some very worthwhile causes.

A domestic violence awareness program is set for Wednesday, Oct. 26 at 2 p.m., at the Mound. Donations to the local domestic violence shelter are encouraged and appreciated. For more information, contact Tania Bardin at (918) 732 -7639.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7720 or email me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Veterans' Pass-in-Review set for Nov. 10

MNN/*Starla Bush*

Muscogee veterans will gather for a Pass-in-Review in honor of Veteran's Day to honor current Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and the newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

OKMULGEE — This year in celebration of Veteran's Day, we will conduct a Pass-in-Review march as is the same with the United States of America Nov. 10, 2011.

The newly-elected and outgoing President is granted the honor of having the United States military Pass-in-Review. We are no different.

The purpose of a Pass-in-Review is to honor the elected civilian leadership and to confirm to all, the military is under command and control of the civilian officials.

We will conduct a Pass-in-Review to honor Principal Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, and our newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

The order of march will be Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps.

We plan on casting 400 commemorative coins to be given to participating Muscogee veterans after the march. The coins will have the Muscogee (Creek)seal and Veterans Office.

Coins numbers 1/400 will be given to Principal Chief Ellis, coin 2/400 will be given to Second Chief Berryhill, 399/400 will be given to the newly elected Second Chief and 400/400 will be given to the newly-elected Principal Chief.

The symbolism of these coins' numbers to our chiefs is to confirm the military is within command and control of our civilian officials.

We will assemble at 10 a.m. Nov. 10, 2011 at the Veterans Building where we will form and rehearse until 12 p.m. Chow is from 12-1 p.m. From 1-2 p.m., we will conduct a dry run and last minute adjustments. At 2 p.m., we will conduct a Pass-in-Review, which will be from VASO to the east of the Mound Building.

Please contact VASO your commemorative coin may be reserved. In closing, we march once every four years to honor the peaceful transition of power in our tribe; it should be honored and will be protected and recognized by us, the veterans of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

God bless our Muscogee Veterans, our Muscogee (Creek) Nation and our continued peaceful political process.

Executive Order places properties under Tourism and Recreation Department

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — On Oct. 14, 2011, Executive Order 11-06 placed Fountainhead Creek Golf Course in Eufaula, Okla., and the Creek Council House Museum located in downtown Okmulgee, under the management of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism and Recreation Department.

Both properties were previously overseen and operated by the Trade and Commerce Authority.

The Creek Council House Museum was recently purchased in November 2010 from the city of Okmulgee. The Fountainhead Golf course was purchased by the tribe in 2008.

For more information, please contact the MCN Tourism and Recreation Department at (918) 732-7792.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
&
VETERAN AFFAIRS SERVICES OFFICE

IN COLLABORATION WITH
SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

PRESENTS

NATIVE WORDS, NATIVE WARRIORS

NOVEMBER 11, 2011 – FEBRUARY 29, 2012

"During World War I and World War II, hundreds of American Indians joined the United States armed forces and used words from their traditional languages as weapons…America's enemies never deciphered the coded messages they sent."

Smithsonian Institution

EXHIBITION AT MUSCOGEE VETERANS BUILDING
For more information contact
Muscogee Tourism & Recreation: 918-732-7992

Developed by the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service with generous support from Elizabeth Hunter Solomon, the Smithsonian Women's Committee, and the AMB Foundation.

Oklahoma State University to host Native American students

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

STILLWATER — Interested Native American high school students wanting to attend Oklahoma State University can travel to Stillwater Nov. 4, for “Native American Visitation Day.” OSU will allow interested Native American high school sophomores, juniors and seniors at its campus to experience a day on a college campus. The event is sponsored by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)-OSU chapter and the Native American Student Association.

Participating students will have opportunities to introduce themselves to the college atmosphere. Workshops on college admissions, a tour of the OSU campus, visiting with college administrators and Native American college students and meeting other area high school students are included in the day’s events.

The cost of the event is a $10 registration fee with the registration form. Checks should be made out to the “OSU-Native American Student Association. The registration fee and forms must be postmarked by Oct. 28, 2011. The fee includes a T-shirt and food. There will be a late fee of $15 for registration after Oct. 28 or the day of the event.

Interested participants are asked to bring one adult sponsor (parent, teacher, etc.) per group. Transportation to and from Stillwater is not included.

Any questions should be directed to Robin Williams at (405) 744-0401 or by email at robin.starr.wiliams@okstate.edu or Derek Davidson at email: derek.davidson@okstate.edu. Registration forms must be sent to:

Office of Multicultural Affairs
Native American Student Association
Attn: Derek Davidson or Robin Williams
009 Classroom Building
Stillwater, OK 74078

Sam’s Club to host open house for citizens/employees Oct. 23

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

TULSA — Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and employees will be treated to an “Open House” Oct. 23 at the Sam’s Club, located at 7757 South Olympia Ave., West in Tulsa. Sam’s Club will close its doors to the public and will only be open to MCN citizens and employees from 6 to 8 p.m.

Those in attendance must present either their citizenship card or MCN employee badge to enter. Attendees are allowed to bring one guest with them.

Sam’s Club is honoring the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by offering specially priced packages to citizens and employees. Guests can purchase either a $100 membership and receive a $30 gift card or a $40 basic membership and receive a $15 gift card.

Applications can be picked up at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Executive Director’s office and returned to the same office to expedite the process and avoid delays. Your membership card may be picked up the night of the event. Attendees can also sign up the night of the event.

A drawing for a 32-inch television, specially priced mums, demonstration of food samplers and tailored holiday foods will be at the event for MCN citizens and employees to enjoy. Three different brands of televisions will be specially priced for the event.

Muscogee (Creek) citizens and Sam’s Club membership coordinators Bill Hill and Carmin Tiger are assisting with this event for the nation.

Sam’s Club is located off Highway 75 and 71st Street in the Tulsa Hills Shopping Center. For more information, please contact Sam’s Club at (918) 877-4546.

MCN Reintegration Chili / Stew Cook-Off and Toy Drive

Media Release
MCN Reintegration Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program will be hosting their third annual toy drive benefitting families of program participants. The Toy Drive began Oct. 10, 2011 and is taking donations until Dec. 20.

Anyone may donate an unwrapped toy for children of any age or sex. If unable to locate a drop-off location or adequate have transportation, please contact the Reintegration Program Office and arrangements for donations to be picked up may be made.

A chili / stew cook-off will also be held at the MCN complex at the Mound Bldg., East Parking Lot Friday, Oct. 28 beginning at 11:30 a.m. The event will feature state fair style ribbons for first, second and third place within each category.

To enter, participants must provide one pot of stew or chili. After judging is complete, the remaining product will be served for a $5 fee or an unwrapped toy. All proceeds raised will help support the Reintegration Program’s Toy Drive. Deadline for entries will be Oct. 25.

For more information, contact Becky Billingsly at (918) 652-2676, ext. 103 or Caressa Lewis at (918) 652-2676, ext. 100.

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
“MOVIE NIGHT”
Thursday, 3 November 2011

**To Celebrate The Birth Month
Of The United States Marine Corps
(10 November 1775)**

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 3 November 2011
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **Major Payne with Damon Wayans and Karen Parsons**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Free! (Marine Corps Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest)
- Muscogee Marine Corps Veterans are now allowed to bring one adult guest (Please limit to only one adult guest)
- **“Movie Night”** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one adult guest)
- Any questions call Delana Hicks at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7744

Pink

Continued from A1

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2007 over 200,000 women in the United States were diagnosed with breast cancer. In that same year, over 400,000 women died from the disease. It is the most common cancer in women and among the leading causes of cancer related deaths in women.

The pink ribbon is a symbol for support and awareness of breast cancer.

Among the participants was Muscogee (Creek) citizen and breast cancer survivor Sarah Deer. Deer was asked to speak about her experience with breast cancer.

The focus of her presentation was her journey through breast cancer and its aftermath.

On Oct. 6, 2006, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Deer underwent a mastectomy, chemotherapy and other procedures to stop the spread of the disease. Supporting her through all of her surgeries and procedures was her husband, Neal. Deer is now a five year cancer survivor.

"I felt really honored to be asked to speak," Deer said after her speech.

After her chemotherapy and reconstructive surgery, she transitioned into teaching law and policy. Deer became the eighth Native woman to become a law professor in the United States. She is currently an assistant professor at the William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, Minn.

"Keep fighting and keep supporting each other," Deer told the packed auditorium.

Survivors, like Deer, and others attend the annual event.

Muscogee (Creek) Language instructor Minnie Proctor was one of the survivors. She reflected and remarked on her journey with battling breast cancer. "I'm very fortunate and blessed and all I can say is, 'Live each day the best you know how to do.'"

At the event, survivors found hope and strength in one another.

"It's very encouraging to see all the survivors year after year... to know that they are there." Linda Dellinger, of Tulsa, said. "I'm very aware of my body now." Dellinger is a five-year breast cancer survivor.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers at Koweta and Okemah offer mammography services.

"This is something that should have been happening a long time ago," Betty Baker, of Muskogee, said. Baker is a 14-year breast cancer survivor. This was the first "Pink Party" she has attended.

"I had cancer, but I'm a survivor and I'm proud of it," Baker concluded.

For more information on women's health, please contact (918) 758-1926.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Over 600 participants attended the annual "Pink Party" held at Covelle Hall on the OSUIT campus Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2011

Cancer Care Community Education offered Oct. 11 - Nov. 17

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE—Every Tuesday and Thursday, beginning Oct. 11 and continuing through Nov. 17, the Native Navigators will host cancer continuum sessions at the Multipurpose building at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health will be hosting educational seminars on cancer: prevention, early detection, survivorship and comfort/ care. The project is subcontracted with Native American Cancer Research to conduct the Native Navigators and Cancer Continuum Project.

The project aims to increase cancer knowledge among the community participants, enhance the visibility and availability of the local Navigators who are available to help community members schedule screening appointments, carry out follow-up recommendations, and provide support and education for those diagnosed with cancer.

Trained patient navigators will conduct community-based cancer education seminars in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. All types of cancer will be covered and the workshops are open participation. A total of 24 hours of training will be offered.

The classes will be offered every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. A light snack or meal will be provided. Participants over the age of 18 will receive an incentive for attending a session. Incentives will be given at each session.

Participants will be evaluated pre- and post-seminar. A summary of results will be provided to the community and participants after the workshops are completed. In Jan., the next education series will begin in another area of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation area.

For more information, please contact Kathy Cole at (918) 441-6048, Loretta Denny at (918) 441-6049 or Debra Isham, the Project Director at 1-855-623-1189.

Cancer Care Community Education Calendar

When: Oct. 11, 2011 - Nov. 17,2011
Time: 6-8 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays

Prevention:

Tuesday, Oct. 11 - Cancer 100
Thursday, Oct. 13 - Energy Balance
Tuesday, Oct. 18 - Healthy Eating

Early' Detection:

Thursday, Oct. 20 - Get on the Path to Breast Health
Tuesday, Oct. 25 - Get on the Path to Colon Health
Thursday, Oct. 27 - Get on the Path to Lung Health
Tuesday, Nov. 1 - Get on the Path to Cervix Health
Thursday, Nov. 3- Get on the Path to Prostate Health

Survivorship:

Tuesday, Nov. 8 - Native American Cancer Education for Survivors
Thursday, Nov. 10 - Side Effects (NACES)

Comfort/ Preventative Care:

Tuesday, Nov. 15 - Survivors' Support Circles
Thursday, Nov. 17 - Wills & Advance Directive

Everyone 18 years or older will receive a $10 gift card after each session for participation.

2011 General Election

Principal Chief

Mike Flud

George Tiger

National Council - McIntosh District

Selina Dornan

Darrell Proctor

National Council - Okmulgee District

James Jennings

David Nichols

Second Chief

Roger Barnett

Louis Hicks

National Council - Okfuskee District

Franklin Coachman

Mitch Jack

National Council - Tukvpvcte District

Shirlene Ade

James McGirt

National Council - Tulsa District

Robert Hufft

Lucian Tiger

National Council - Wagoner District

Johnnie Greene

Mark Randolph

2011 MCN voter precinct information

Creek District
- Bristow Indian Community Center
  710 S. Main St.
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center
  1020 N. Brown St.

Mcintosh District
- Eufaula Elderly Nutrition Center
- Checotah Indian Community Center
  500 Owens Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center
  Last road through Hanna, turn east and go four miles
- Yardeka Indian Community Center
  Eight miles SE of Henryetta (one mile south of Salem Baptist) S. 250 Rd.

Muskogee District
- Muscogee Indian Community Center
  111 South Virginia

Okfuskee
- Okemah Indian Community Center
  1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community
  602 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District
- Dewar Indian Community Center
  212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center
  2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center
  8110 Highway 52

Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District
- Dustin Indian Community Center
  Main Street
- Holdenville Indian Community Center
  224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community Center
  608 N. Creek St.

Tulsa District
- Glenpool Indian Community Center
  13839 S. Casper
- Tulsa Indian Community Center
  8611 South Union

Wagoner District
- Koweta Indian Community
  30925 E. 141st St. S

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL WHO REFUSES TO BE A VICTIM. **I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL** WHO'S TIRED OF BEING IGNORED AND HUMORED AND BEATEN AND RAPED. **I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL** WHO KNOWS THAT THIS BODY AND THIS MIND ARE MINE. **I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL** WHO KNOWS THAT YOU ONLY HAVE AS MUCH POWER AS I GRANT YOU. **I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL** WHO FIGHTS BACK. **FIGHT LIKE A GIRL!**

FIGHT
like a girl!

There will be door prizes and a limited number of t-shirts

Come hear a panel of Professionals speak on their experience working with victims of Domestic Violence

2 P.M. ~ October 26, 2011
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Complex - Mound Building
Hwy 75 @ Loop 56
Okmulgee 74447
For more information contact Tania Bardin at (918)732-7869

Donations to the local domestic violence shelter are appreciated but not required.
Supprted by OVW FY 08 Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Discretionary Grant Program Award # 2008-TW-AX-0001 and Rural Grant Award #2010 WR-AX-0004

SECTION B

FEATURES

Oct. 15, 2011 edition

From Africa to Muscogee

• Officials get first hand look at tribal court system

MNN/*Gary Fife*

African visitors stopped by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building for a guided tour of how the three branches of the tribal government work together.

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The names of their countries made up an exotic list of nations from the far reaches of the African continent. Their titles reflected a sample of the top officials for human rights and foreign policy in countries still trying to get their own governments stabilized in a huge part of the world.

Fifteen of these visitors were at Muscogee tribal headquarters, Sept. 23, for a quick look at how this Native American government and court system operate. They were hosted by the Tulsa Global Alliance, under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State International Visitor Leadership Program. The group members had expressed interest in learning about the human rights of Native Americans and the Tulsa alliance arranged to have them brought to Okmulgee.

Muscogee District Court Judge Patrick Moore answered questions from the delegates, gave a tour of the tribal court and spoke about how the Muscogee judicial system operates.

Moore noted that many of them represented what he called a 'sovereign nation within a sovereign nation', similar to the relationship between tribal governments and the federal government. Some of them, he added, had also gone through a sometimes-violent form of removal from their ancestral homelands.

The visitors were selected by American embassies in their respective nations to travel to the U.S. While in this country, they meet and confer with their professional counterparts.

Hanna Indian Community to elect officers Oct. 24

Media Release
Hanna Creek Indian Community

HANNA — The Hanna Indian Community will be having an election of officers on Monday, Oct. 24, 2011 at the Hanna Indian Community Center.

Refreshments will be served at 6:15 p.m., and elections will follow at 6:30 p.m. Elections will be held for chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and sergeant-At-Arms.

The Term of office is for one year. Requirements to serve on the Board are to be a full Citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, ¼ or more of the Creek blood and must reside within the boundaries of the Hanna Indian Community.

This if our first step in the direction of getting the community moved out from Proclamation. We need all the Community Involvement to make this community a success.

For more information, please contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research and Development at (918) 732 -7960.

Sapulpa Indian Community to elect officers Dec. 5

Media Release
Sapulpa Creek Indian Community

SAPULPA — Sapulpa Creek Indian Community will hold officer elections during the month of Dec.

Any Creek citizen living within the boundaries of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in becoming a member of the community may apply for membership to vote in the upcoming election by Nov. 18, 2011.

Members of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in filing for candidacy in an elected office may be subject to a Background Check and drug testing with the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community.

Registered members are also encouraged to update their contact information with the community at this time.

Officer elections will be held Monday, Dec. 5, 2011. A list of the positions will be published at a later date.

For more information contact Wanda Weaver at (918) 645-7772 or the Sapulpa Indian Community Center at (918) 227-9627.

B2 HISTORY

And Still the Waters Run: Chief W.E. (*Dode) McIntosh*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Concharty UMC Fish Fry

B4 CULTURE

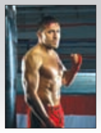
Euchee artist continues to expand career

B5 SPOTLIGHT

Creek woman spends summers as 'Butterfly Carney'

B7 SPORTS

Longacre prepares for battle at Tulsa's Hard Rock in Nov.



And Still the Waters Run: *Chief W.E. (Dode) McIntosh*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — Chief McIntosh was called "Dode" by his father. His mother was a great admirer of Ralph Waldo Emerson, so she named him Waldo Emerson. Dode's father disliked Emerson (though of him as a Yankee), so he used just the last syllable of Waldo and turned it into "Dody."

As the future chief grew older, the Y was dropped for E, which was more appropriate for an adult. Born in Tennessee in 1893, Dode was brought to Checotah in 1901. His love for his adopted hometown would endure for the next ninety years.

After attending the former Teacher's Normal School, and following his marriage to the pretty LuLu Vance in 1914, he began teaching school at a rural school out of Checotah. He rode horseback seventeen miles a day, winter and summer. When he first started teaching, some of the older boys challenged him to wrestling matches, and it was only after he soundly beat them all that they were willing to listen to his lessons. He and Ms. Vance would be married for 72 years. They loved to dance.

He started working for a lumberyard in Checotah, and started his political career when elected as City Clerk of Checotah. When he returned from military service in World War I, he returned to the lumber business and then transferred to a yard in Miami, which he managed for 14 years. During that time he also served as Ottawa County Democratic Chairman. Upon moving to Tulsa, Dode continued his service in Democratic politics and was appointed county assessor. He also served as the Tulsa county motor vehicle agent.

W.E. Dode Mcintosh was appointed Principal Chief of he Muscogee Creek Nation by Secretary of the Interior, Steward Udall, on October 6, 1961. He served five terms.

Dode was a descendant of both the Scottish McIntosh clan and numerous Creek chiefs. He was fiercely proud of both his heritages. He told the story of attending a McIntosh clan gathering in Scotland, while wearing full Native America regalia. Of course he was the center of attention.

Chief McIntosh accomplished many things during his decade of tribal leadership. To list, but a few of his many many achievements:

Always the teacher, he worked tirelessly for the education of all Creek youth.

He presented a case to Washington for the unlawful taking of Creek land in 1814 and received nearly four million dollars compensation for the tribe.

He presented a like case for the unlawful taking of Creek land in Seminole County and received over one million dollars compensation. He was so proud to return these funds to his people. He helped introduce a bill to protect the estates of Indians.

He established 50 health clinics for the tribe. He built 250 homes for tribal members.

He affected a new census and tribal roll. He secured $2,200.000 to build dormitories for the Eufaula Boarding School. He served as President of the Inter-tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes. He was one of the Directors of the prestigious Oklahoma Historical Society. He was also on the Board of the Gilcrease Museum.

As for public recognition: He led many of Tulsa's Veterans Day parades in full uniform, the same uniform he wore while serving in WWI. Few servicemen could accomplish that feat. He received the Western heritage ward for his contributions for the betterment of American Indians. He was once chosen the Indian of the Year.

A grandson of Chief McIntosh has contributed two stories I would like to briefly share. They reflect upon the character of the man. Dode was a lover of books, an avid reader from his youth. His library took over all four walls of a large room at his home in Tulsa. As Dode grew older, he continued to buy and sell books. He attended flea markets and garage sales. Over the years he donated hundreds, if not thousands of books to mostly Native American schools to enlarge school libraries. He would influenced his grandson and countless others with a love for reading.

Of course with reading comes learning. Consider the following, "My contact with grandpa was infrequent, as I lived in Colorado Springs. While I was working on my doctorate degree, he encouraged me to keep learning and working hard. He once spontaneously quoted the follow verse from Longfellow's poem, The Ladder of St. Augustine:

"The heights of great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions slept
Were toiling upward in the night."

He quoted it easily, as in carefully memorized and always available for quoting".

He and Lulu had five children. When he died in 1991, the Chief was survived by two sons, Nocus of Jay, Okla., and Chinnubbie of Tulsa. A daughter, Willie McIntosh Lee, lived in Riverton, Wyo. There were also nine grandchildren and eleven greats. He had lost two sons, William Vance and Waldo Emerson Jr., who was killed in flight training in California during WWII.

A grandson, Gary McIntosh, D. Min., Ph.D., is a professor at Biola University in California and contributed to his article. Thank you Gary for the stories of your grandfather.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Family Advisory Meeting

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behaviorial Health is looking ofr members for a family advisory committee. The family advisory committee will give input on our servcies and future plan.

A meeting with be held on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2011 from 6-7 p.m., at the MCN Housing Authority Building located at 2951 North Wood Drive, Okmulgee, Okla. 74447.

MCN annual Fall Carnival

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will host a Fall Carnival Oct. 21, 2011 from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. The carnival will be held on the tribal complex grounds located in Okmulgee at Highway 75 and Loop 56. There will be prizes, games and food for all ages.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Jessica Action at (918) 732-7673.

Smith Family Reunion

CARSON — The Smith family reunion will be held on Oct. 22, 2011 beginning at 9 a.m. The reunion will be at Billy Ray Smith's home in Carson, Okla. A potluck meal will be at 11 a.m. Family members are asked to bring a covered dish, door prize, cake for the cakewalk and old family pictures.

Activities include volleyball, horseshoes, door prizes, a raffle for a family quilt and a talent show. The best talent will receive a $25 cash prize.

For more information, please contact any of the following: Wisey J. Givens (918) 716-0074, Carmen McGirt (918) 716-8854 or Billy Ray Smith (918) 656-3521.

Concharty Fish Fry and Flea Market

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee, will host a Fish Fry and flea market at the Twin Hills Creek Indian Community Center.

The flea market will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 22 and the fish fry will be held from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Concharty UMC's general fund.

The Twin Hills Community Center is located at the intersection of Highway 16 and 52.

For more information, please call. (918) 366-8450 or visit the website at: www.kvncate.com

Eufaula Indian Community Candidate Forum

EUFAULA — The Eufaula Indain Community will be hosting a candidate forum on Oct. 27 at the City of Eufaula Community Center, located in downtown Eufaula.

This forum is for all candidates in the General Election set for Nov. 5. The forum will begin at 6 p.m.

Concharty Annual Fall Festival

OKMULGEE — Concharty United Methodist Church, located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee, will host a free carnival with games, food and fun for the whole family on Oct. 29, 2011.

Activities begin at 4 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

For more information, please call. (918) 366-8450 or visit the website at: www.kvncate.com

Holdenville Indian Community Candidate Forum

EUFAULA — The Holdenville Indain Community will be hosting a candidate forum on Oct. 27 at the City of Eufaula Community Center, located in downtown Eufaula.

This forum is for the Principal and Second Chief candidates in the General Election set for Nov. 5. The forum will begin at 6 p.m. National Council representatives in the run-off election are invited to attend.

Okla. Haskell Alumni Association Reunion

STROUD — The Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma will be hosting a One-Day Reunion Nov. 5, 2011. The reunion will be held at the Sac & Fox Tribal Community Center located in Stroud, Okla. All Haskell alumni are invited to attend. There will be a golf scramble.

For more information on the golf scramble, please contact Dan Little Axe at (405) 13-8443. For any other questions, please contact Carmen Ketcher at (918) 333-7483 or email at mscarmen2009@hotmail.com. RV and camp grounds are available. Please contact Carmen for rates.

Reintegration Program Coat Drive

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program is hosting their first annual coat drive and still taking donations of new or gently used coats. Donations can be dropped off at the MCN Reintegration program or arrangements can be made to have them picked up.

For more information, please contact Becky Bilingsly at (800) 259-1059 or (918) 652-2676.

Okemah Indian Community Bag and Bake Sale

OKEMAH — The Okemah Senior Shop will be open every Saturday in Oct., with baked goods or a bag of items for $1.

Items are donated clothing, shoes, things for the home or everyday use. Proceeds benefit the Okemah Indian Community Senior activities and events. Dates will be Oct. 1, Oct. 7, Oct. 14, Oct. 21 and Oct. 28. The OIC Senior Building is located at 14th St., in Okemah.

For more information, contact Amy Hill at (405) 315-6164 or Carol Tiger at (918) 716-8267.

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town elections cancelled

OKEMAH — The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town officer election set for Oct. 22 is canceled. Oral arguments regarding the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town election will take place in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court Oct. 28, 2011 beginning at 10 a.m.

Glenpool Community Officer elections cancelled

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool Indian Community officer elections, which were scheduled for Nov. 15, 2011 have been cancelled until further notice.

For more information, contact Dianna Billie at (918) 691- 6006.

Editor's note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

Change a life.
Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent

Children. Keepers of our tradition.

Preserve our heritage, become a foster/adoption parent today.
In the State of Oklahoma, there are Muscogee Creek Children in state and tribal custody looking for a place to call "cuko" (home).
Become a Foster/Adoptive tribal homes.

For more information contact: Tammi Reed-Barnett
at (918)732-7883 OR email: tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION I. T.
NICWA
National Indian Child Welfare Association
Protecting our children • Preserving our culture

Euchee artist continues to expand career

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

SAPULPA — At the height of the recession, when many individuals were trying to find work, artist Steven Grounds found inspiration and time to create work.

"I was in between jobs at the time...and I had nothing to do but art," the Euchee-Navajo artist said from his studio.

While applying for jobs and waiting to hear back, Grounds began creating artwork which eventually led to more jobs and the creation of a small project.

In 2008, Grounds launched Native Evolution, an art project that creates a unique representation for Native Americans by bridging the gap between pre and post colonization.

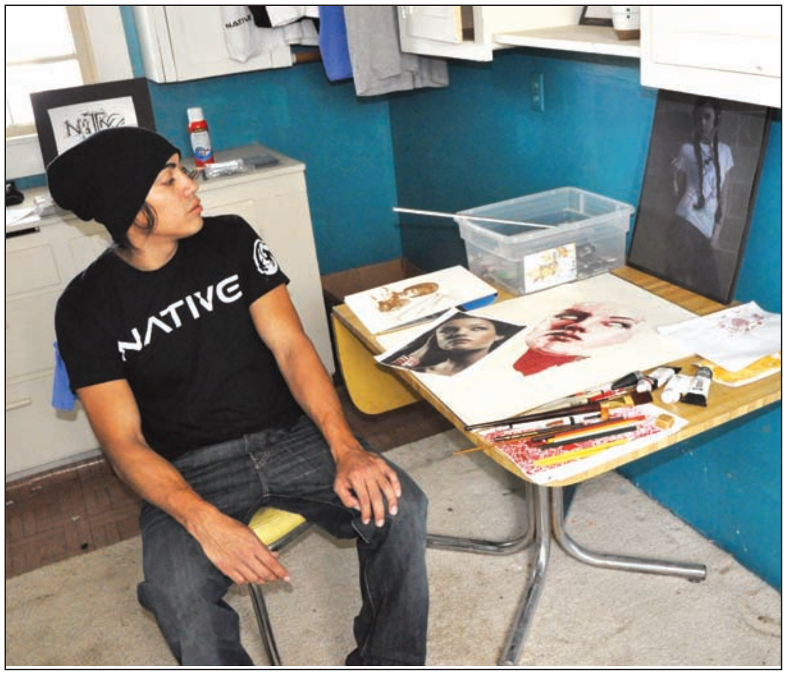
"I didn't have anything to get in my way like 40 hours a week."

MNN/Lee Longhorn
Steven Grounds, Euchee-Navajo artist, has designed the artwork for Tulsa's Oktoberfest and is currently working on other projects from his Sapulpa-based work studio.

Grounds' work and accomplishments come short of nothing but hard work and pure talent. Grounds received no other training than a few classes he took throughout college. In the fall of 2004, Grounds graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Native American Studies from Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan.

Much of his artwork is through trial and error, Grounds said. Grounds has been drawing since before he can remember.

"I'm doing things more organically," Grounds continued. "Each thing that I do, I feel I end up learning more and then I apply it to the next thing I do."



Grounds enjoys the work of artists who didn't have formal training.

"I also like the old school guys from the Renaissance like Da Vinci and Michaelangelo."

Grounds works with other artists and designers to enhance his work.

"He does really great work," said Ryan Red Corn. Red Corn, co-founder of Buffalo Nickel Industries, a T-shirt screen printing and warehouse distribution business. "He's untrained and he's been able to get himself this far with his technique."

"We work well together," Grounds said of his fellow artist.

Grounds continues to work on projects. His most recent published work was a piece used for the 2011 Tulsa Oktoberfest promotional poster.

"Because of Oktoberfest, it's recognition outside the Native world," Grounds said.

Fred Jones Jr. expands Native collection with Stuart Wing

Media Release
Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art

NORMAN — Four years of planning, construction and preparations are about to pay off when the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art at the University of Oklahoma opens its new Stuart Wing to the public on Saturday, Oct. 22, followed by a special community celebration from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23. Admission is free to the public both days.

The Stuart Wing provides a new 18,000-square-foot expansion of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art to house the museum's many collections acquired within the past 15 years. Designed by noted architect Rand Elliott, the new addition is named the Stuart Wing for OU Regent Jon R. Stuart and his wife, Dee Dee, a member of the art museum's board of visitors, in recognition of their $3 million lead gift to the campaign to fund the expansion project for the museum and their dedication to the university. Regent Stuart is president and CEO of First Stuart Corp., a Tulsa-based family investment company.

The Stuart Wing includes a new gallery to house the acclaimed Adkins Collection, which is one of the nation's most important private collections of Taos and Native American artists. The Adkins Collection, which is valued at approximately $50 million, features approximately 3,300 objects, including more than 400 Native American paintings, plus pottery and jewelry. The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art and the Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa are joint stewards of the Adkins Collection.

After two years of planning, construction on the new wing began in 2009. Construction includes renovations to the original 1971 building and the addition of the Adkins Gallery, a new photography gallery and new administrative offices. In all, the new Stuart Wing, with renovations, includes 27,480 square feet of exhibition space. The renovations and additions bring the total exhibition space in the museum to approximately 40,000 square feet.

A grand staircase, constructed just behind the west wall of the original building, will lead visitors from the first floor and the level below to the 7,800-square-foot Adkins Gallery. After viewing the Adkins Collection, visitors will be able to move up to the new mezzanine level to view the nearly 4,300-square-foot Ellen and Richard L. Sandor Photography Gallery, where OU's extensive and important photography collection, along with works on paper, will be featured in rotating exhibits.

The Museum of Art's collections total nearly 16,000 works of art which, in addition to the Adkins Collection, includes the Weitzenhoffer Collection of French Impressionism.

An exhibition catalog is available at Muse, the museum store.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located in the OU Arts District on the corner of Elm Avenue and Boyd Street, at 555 Elm Ave., on the OU Norman campus.

Admission to the museum is free to all OU students with a current student ID and all museum association members, $5 for adults, $4 for seniors, $3 for children 6 to 17 years of age, $2 for OU faculty/staff and free for military veterans with proof and children 5 and under. The museum is closed on Mondays and admission is free on Tuesdays. The museum's website is www.ou.edu/fjjma. Information and accommodations on the basis of disability are available by calling (405) 325-4938.

Creek woman spends summers as “Butterfly Carny”

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

Photos courtesy/*Breckinridge Family*

Jane Breckinridge greets visitors at the Tulsa State Fair and Oklahoma State Fair with her traveling butterfly exhibit. She and her family showcase over 5,000 domestic and exotic butterflies.

TULSA — Muscogee citizen Jane Breckinridge was one of the dozens of exhibitors at the 2011 Tulsa State Fair. But, unlike the dozens of other booths, hers held a live exhibit of thousands of live butterflies that fairgoers could interact with, for a fair experience unlike any other.

Visitors of all ages got to hold and watched the various sizes and species of the exotic insects that fluttered around their heads and perched on a lot of unexpected places like foreheads, noses and cheeks.

This is how Breckinridge and her family spend their summers. The Bixby family tours the United States and Canada with their traveling exhibit, a 40 x 60 netted arbor, selling admission to fair visitors who would like to take a break from the usual frantic pace of a state fair to enjoy a more gentle time.

The 5,000 butterflies are the attraction. They range from large colorful species from places like South and Central America and the Phillipines, to small domestic varieties. Some are home grown on Breckinridges' farm which is Creek allotted land. “These are butterflies that they would not see in Oklahoma. They would only see them here. For a lot of people it's a really special experience to be able to interact with butterflies because it's something that most people have never done before, Breckinridge said.

They are the only butterfly house in existence that has so many butterflies flying freely at one time and the only butterfly house that allows guests to hold or land on them. A viewing area is also provided where fairgoers can watch the butterflies emerge from their chrysalides. Most of the butterflies are imported from tropical areas and are raised by small family farms as eco-friendly livestock, providing a ‘green’ economic opportunity to those rural families with little other income.

In order to import tropical butterflies, one has to go through a strict permit and licensure process with the USDA. Even disposal of butterfly ‘casualties’ is strictly controlled. Native species butterflies are raised at their Bixby home. This year they have brought large butterfly exhibits to Houston, Edmonton, Des Moines and St. Paul, as well as both the Oklahoma State Fair and the Tulsa State Fair.

Amidst the hectic activity of operating her Butterfly House, Breckinridge and her customers find the space a calming retreat from the clamor and commotion of the midway, “It's amazing. No matter how stressful or bad you day is, if you come in and these things start landing all over you and you see the smiles and the joy they bring to people when they land on them. You feel definitely a sense of peace and serenity. Whatever you want to attribute that to, or whatever you own spiritual beliefs, there is definitely something very powerful about being in here with these butterflies.”

An exhibition of butterflies is not exactly an attraction which would make visitors pull their cars off a highway for a stop. But, a state fair is a great venue for them, offering a built-in group of patrons for the Butterfly House, Breckinridge says, “We have a built-in audience that we otherwise wouldn't be able to find. For us, we can network with a lot of people who didn't even know they liked butterflies. But, they see it, they come in, and it really changes the way they feel about conservation of the natural resources. It changes the way they feel about a lot of things. For us it's more than a business, it really is a mission to us.”

It's not all fun and games for Breckinridge. Protecting these fragile creatures from energetic children can pose a host of problems, she said, but it pays off, “ We are very protective. We have a lot of rules in here about kids not acting roughly with them. It's the perfect blend of art and science doing this. You have to really know what you're doing in terms of taking care of them.”

Neither Jane Breckinridge or her husband, David Bohlken have backgrounds in butterfly science—lepidoptery. What they know, they learned over years of patience and experience working with these gorgeous insects. The scientific community may look down on these butterfly wranglers for not having that kind of background, she said, but that doesn't bother her, “The academics can go do their thing, with their research and feeling very lofty. We'll be down here with the kids, sitting there with their giant smiles on their faces.”

The economics of a travelling butterfly exhibit like these won't make them rich monetarily, she adds, but it has been paying for itself and providing them an income. And, Breckinridge concludes, they get paid in other ways, “The real joy in life is doing what you love.”

OBITUARIES

MIKKA HARJO

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for former Seminole County resident Mikka Francene Harjo passed away Monday evening Oct. 3, 2011 at the age of 22 years.

Wake services were held at 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011 at Tukvpucte Methodist Church, Holdenville with Rev. Joe Lowe, Rev. Margaret Battise, Rev. Alvin Deer, Rev. Chebon Kernal and Rev. Bill Foot.

Funeral service was held at 1 p.m., Friday, Oct. 7, 2011 at Tukvpucte Methodist Church with burial to follow at Tukvpucte Cemetery. The body will be taken to the Church 4 p.m., Thursday afternoon.

Mikka Francene Harjo was born on Easter Sunday, March 26, 1989 to Rev. Mike and Opal (Coachman) Harjo who lived at Preston Okla., at that time. She was baptized a few months later by the late Rev. Tom Roughface.

Mikka grew up traveling to different churches and events with her mom and dad. She did sign language at the area churches during Christmas and for other events.

Mikka graduated from Anadarko High School in 2007 where she like playing in the band. She enjoyed beading, pow wows, writing short stories and drawing. She loved and spoiled all her nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, grandfather, brother Christopher Harjo, and two uncles George Harjo and Jumbo Harjo.

Mikka leaves to cherish her memories two sisters: Jerri Lynn Harjo, of Cushing, Okla., Deedra Tainpeah of Norman, Okla.; four brothers Tenetke Harjo and wife Nicetta of Okmulgee, Okla., Virgil Harjo and wife Faye of Glenpool, Wilson Harjo of Prague, Okla., V. Mike Harjo II and wife of Seminole, Okla., and D.J. Stevenson and wife of Anadarko, Okla.

Mikka also leaves a very close extended family; Uncle Frank Coachman, Aunts Cynthia and Ray Tainpeah, and Pat Coachman: Cousins Arharlock and Misti Buckley, Meske Wind, Kimberly Coachman, Rebecca Coachman, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Pall bearers were: Arharock Buckley, Mih Coby Chibitty, D.J. Stevenson, Blake Underwood, Noah White and Derrick Abney.

Honorary pall bearers include: A. J. Buckley, Zander Buckley, and Joseph Wind.

Arrangements by Stout-Phillips Funeral Home

J.D. HILL

TULSA — J. D. Hill, Age 57 of Tulsa was born Feb. 14, 1954 to Toney E. and Irene (Simmer) Hill in Okemah, Okla.

He attended Jones Academy in Hartshorne, Okla., and graduated from Butner in Cromwell, Okla. He attended OSU-Okmulgee. He was a cabinet-maker by trade.

His favorite pastime was playing softball with teams such as the Red Thunder and Spirits. He also liked to shoot pool. J.D. was an avid OU fan as well as an Oakland Raiders fan. J.D. loved being surrounded by family and friends and was quite the jokester.

Survivors include two daughters. Jo'Reta Hill and Anrise Hill both of Wetumka, and two sons James "Hob" Johnson of Lawton and Reuben Culley of Wetumka. His special friend Kay Christy of Tulsa, OK Also three sisters: Malley Hill of Okmulgee, Mary Christine Lindsey, of Okmulgee, Wanda Hill of Okemah. Two brothers: Stoney Hill, Billy Hill and Toby Hill all of Okemah and Dewey Hill of Lamar, OK. His 14 grandchildren. Two Aunts: Helen Coon of Sapulpa and Edith Harjoe of Cromwell and one Uncle: John Pigeon of Okemah. As well as a host of relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Paula Hill, two brothers William Hill and Louie Hill; one sister Emma Jones and Juanita Barnett and one grandson, Reese Culley.

A wake service was held 7 p.m., Thursday at Little Quassarte Indian Baptist Church near Cromwell, Okla.

Funeral services were held Friday, Aug. 12, 2011 at 2 p.m., at Little Quassarte Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Wayne Harjo officiating and Rev. Houston Tiger assisting.

Interment followed at Hill-Simmer Family Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Integrity Funeral Service.

ALICE LOUISE MICCO

SHAWNEE — Alice Louise Micco Watson was born on Feb. 28, 1934 in Henryetta, Okla., to Rev. Hempsey Micco and Mattie Looney Micco. She passed from this life Sept. 17, 2011 in Shawnee, Okla., at the age of 77.

Alice lived many years in the Dustin area. She was a long-time member of the Arbeka Indian Baptist Church. Alice was baptized on Sept. 6, 1954 by her grandfather Rev. George Barney Looney.

She loved quilting, working jigsaw puzzles and singing Creek hymns. She loved watching sports and most who knew her remember her love for bubble gum.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Ray Watson; her grandparents Rev. George Barney Looney and Warnie Riley Looney, four brothers James and Dempsey Micco and two infant brothers and a sister Phenie Kay Micco.

Survivors include: four daughters, Virginia Plenge and husband David of Turley, Charlotte Watson and husband Phillip Watashe of Glenpool; Donna Watson Dunson of Tulsa, and Phyllis Bencoma and husband David of Weleetka; two sons Leon Watson of Okemah and Ray Watson; Jr. of Okmulgee; four sisters Ann Hickey of Bryant, Sarah Winney of Weleetka, Nelly English of Okmulgee, and Rainey Micco of Weleetka; three brothers Robert Micco of Konawa, and Johnny Micco and Tommy Fisher both of Weleetka; 14 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, along with several nieces; nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2011 at 2 p.m. at the Arbeka Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Eugene Harjo and Rev. Sidney Lee officiating.

Pallbearers were: Woody Micco, Michael Manley, Frank Scott, Jon T. Jones, Jimpsey Micco, and Aarod Micco. Honorary bearers will be Rodney Scott, Reed Miceo, Leland Micco, Sherman Micco, Douglas Micco, and Chris Jones.

Traditional Funeral Package
$4,400.00
We gladly accept your tribal burial benefits

Jimmy Spurlock, Wesley VanMeter, and Robert Owens

Native American Funeral Director & visitation attendant on staff

"Caring When It Counts"

IFS INTEGRITY FUNERAL SERVICE

410 East Trudgeon Henryetta

652-6600

Native American Package details
on our website at
www.integrityfuneralservice.com

Creek is rowdy 'Ruf/Nek'

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

NORMAN — Football games at the University of Oklahoma can be quite an experience. The game itself can be enough, not to mention the sounds, music from the bands, the pom squad and the upbeat energy from the 'Ruf/Neks.'

The Ruf/Neks are a group that are hard not to notice, often staked out on the north side of the field. Dressed in their crimson shirts and white pants, they make themselves known by the burst of the rifles they shoot after each Sooner score. They can also be recognized as the drivers of the 'Sooner Schooner,' the miniature covered wagon that rolls on the field when the team scores.

OU junior David Colbert has been a member of this group since he was a freshman. Colbert explains that joining the Ruf/Neks was a natural progression. "Well, I have been going to OU games since I was seven months old and I remember hearing a big boom and then when I got older I heard about a group called the Ruf/Neks, so when I came to school here, I applied for it . . . I love the Sooners and I just gave it a shot and it happened!"

Colbert holds another unique title, as 'Mr. Indian OU.' Given to a Native American student that exemplifies high academic standards and is involved in extracurricular activities, the title comes with responsibilities of its own.

"I try to promote a positive image for young Indian children to look up to . . . I want them to know how important education is, and to take charge of their lives."

Amanda Brouch, a fellow member of the Ruf/Neks knows how important Colbert is to the organization. "He is a very happy, well-rounded person," says Brouch when describing Colbert, "he helps get everything together . . . and sometimes even hangs out the back of the Schooner, which, I love it when they, (Ruf/Neks), do that!"

Colbert says he receives encouragement from the Native American fans that come to the games, "There are a lot of Indian people that are walking around, before and after the game, they come up to me or my parents and then my parents will call me and they will say they are proud of me and I definitely feel that support."

Colbert not only sees the experience of being a Ruf/Nek as fun, but also a responsibility. "That's part of the reason I joined, to have an American Indian student out there and to be in the spotlight, because even now, we do not have as good as representation as we should . . .to show up-and-coming students that you can do it, just get out there and get involved," says Colbert.

Colbert is a double major; he is studying Business Marketing and Native American Studies.

MNN/*Gerald Wofford*

David Colbert can be seen on the north end of Owen Field at every University of Oklahoma Sooner home football game with the rest of the Ruf/Neks.

Longacre prepares for battle at Hard Rock Tulsa Nov. 18

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

Photos courtesy/Thomas *Longacre*

Thomas "Thunderkick" Longacre will fight at Tulsa's Hard Rock on Nov. 18, 2011.

TULSA — Lights dim. Fog fills the arena. "Thunderstruck" by AC/DC plays. The crowd goes crazy. This is the entrance for MMA star Thomas "Thunderkick" Longacre.

Longacre, who fights for Dale "Apollo" Cook's Promotions, is a fixture in anything that has to do with mixed martial arts events. He has fought in kickboxing, MMA, Muay Thai, Karate, the WCL (World Combat League) and boxing. With those fights, there have been numerous victories with few defeats. Along with "fighter" there is also a student, trainer and teacher within Longacre who owns his own gym (Thunderkick Fitness) where he teaches fitness and martial arts to all ages.

Longacre, who is originally from Kellyville, now resides in Tyler, Texas, and says that he has been a part of martial arts since he was in "the womb." His mother and father met at a Karate competition so martial arts has been his life from the get-go.

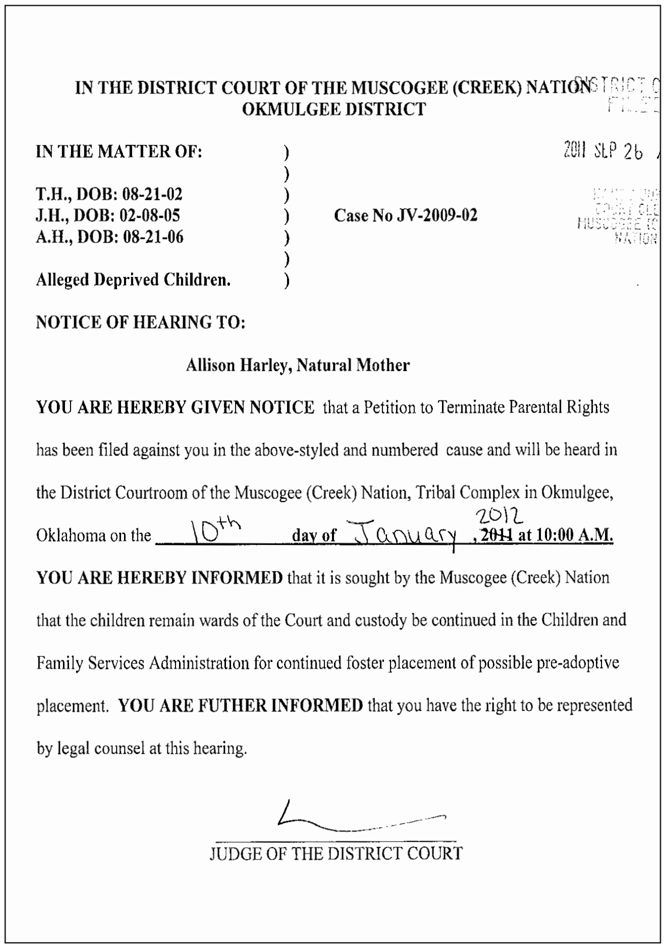
He started competing at age seven and went to full-contact fighting in his twenties, which has led him to where he is with the sport today.

Longacre is also very proud of the fact that he is Muscogee. He knows that he has American Indian in his blood and lets everyone know when asked about his heritage. "I want everyone to know about my Creek heritage and to be able to see positive things, says Longacre. "I love representing Native people, not just Creeks, but all Natives, as a positive role model in the fight game. I feel like I am accomplishing that every time I fight, whether it is in the ring or in the cage, I am representing everyone."

Longacre relates fighting to everyday life. "Fighting, to me, is life in general. In fighting, you are going to take hits. In life, you are going to take hits. It is what you do when you get hit that defines who you are. You don't give up. You keep striving and pushing yourself to succeed and defeat what is in front of you," Longacre said.

When Longacre fights, he feels preparation is key. "You have to take your time when getting ready for your fight. I feel like I am ready for a fight physically, but it is mentally that is a big factor before a fight. I have to get my mind focused to take it to next level. When I am getting my hands wrapped, which is letting me know the fight is getting close, . . . warming up on the mitts I know the fight will be happening in a few minutes and that is when the Warrior Spirit starts to take over," Longacre said.

So when the lights dim and "Thunderstruck" fills the air at Hard Rock Casino in Catoosa, Okla., Nov. 18, 2011, everyone will be anticipating another Thomas "Thunderkick" Longacre battle.



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT C
2011 SEP 26
MUSCOGEE (C
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
T.H., DOB: 08-21-02)
J.H., DOB: 02-08-05) **Case No JV-2009-02**
A.H., DOB: 08-21-06)
)
Alleged Deprived Children.)

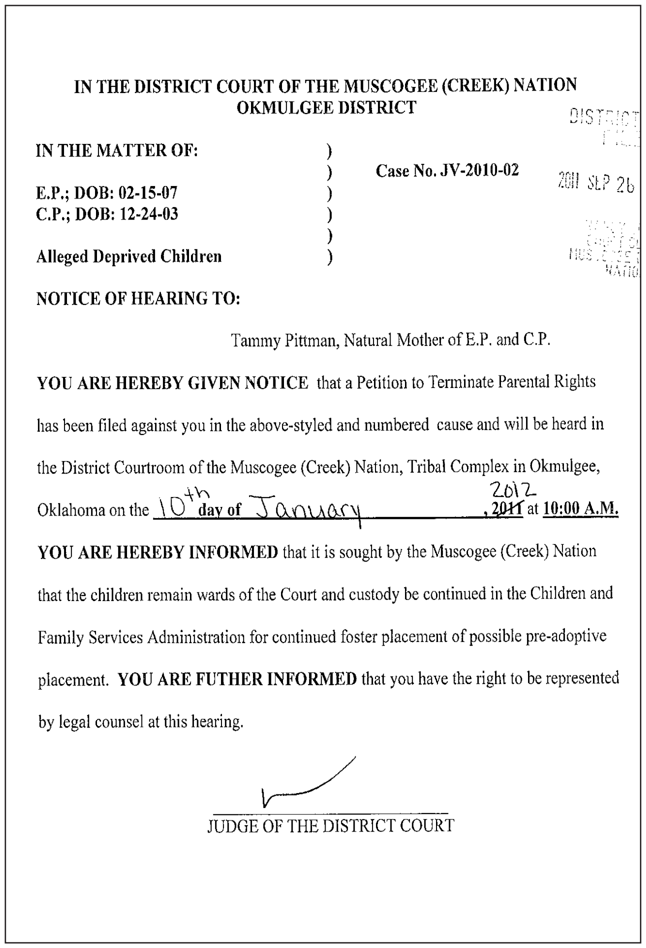
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Allison Harley, Natural Mother

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10th **day of** January **, ~~2011~~ 2012 at 10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT
2011 SEP 26
MUSCOGEE
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2010-02**
E.P.; DOB: 02-15-07)
C.P.; DOB: 12-24-03)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

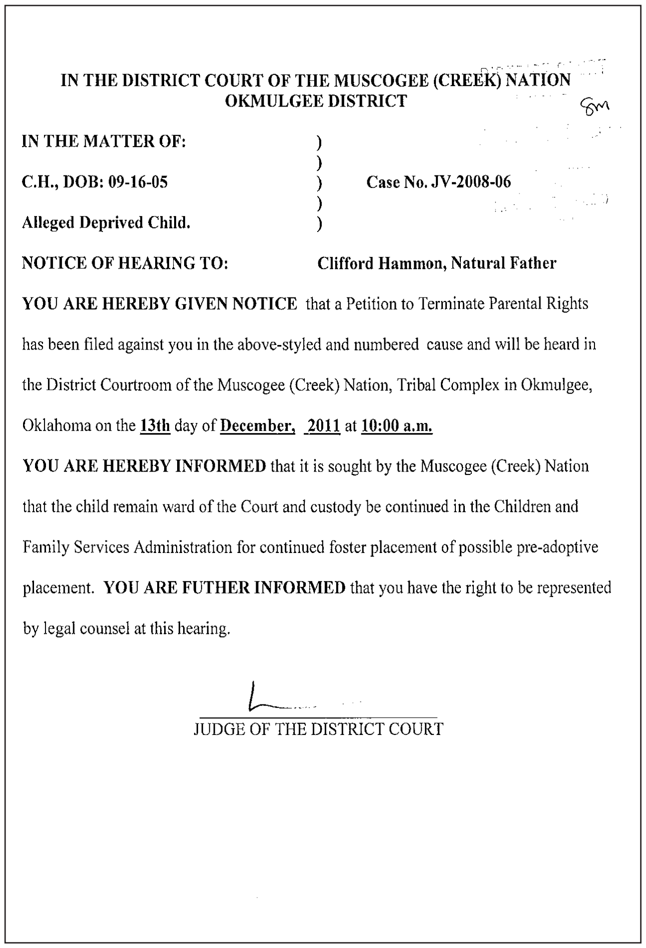
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tammy Pittman, Natural Mother of E.P. and C.P.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10th **day of** January **, ~~2011~~ 2012** at **10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Sm

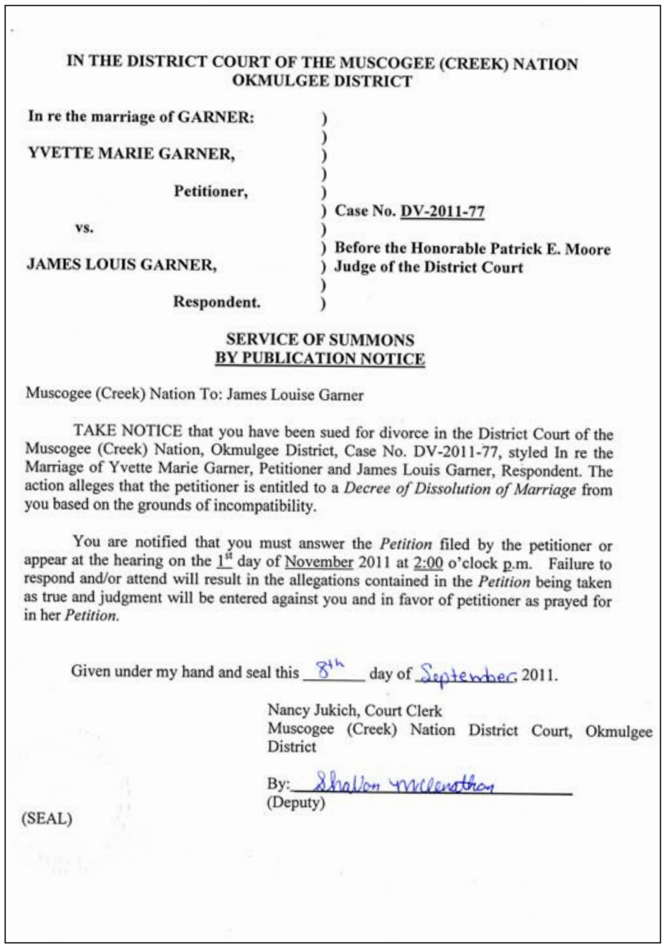
IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
C.H., DOB: 09-16-05) **Case No. JV-2008-06**
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO: **Clifford Hammon, Natural Father**

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th** day of **December, 2011** at **10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of GARNER:)
)
YVETTE MARIE GARNER,)
)
Petitioner,)
) **Case No. DV-2011-77**
vs.)
) **Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore**
JAMES LOUIS GARNER,) **Judge of the District Court**
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: James Louise Garner

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2011-77, styled In re the Marriage of Yvette Marie Garner, Petitioner and James Louis Garner, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

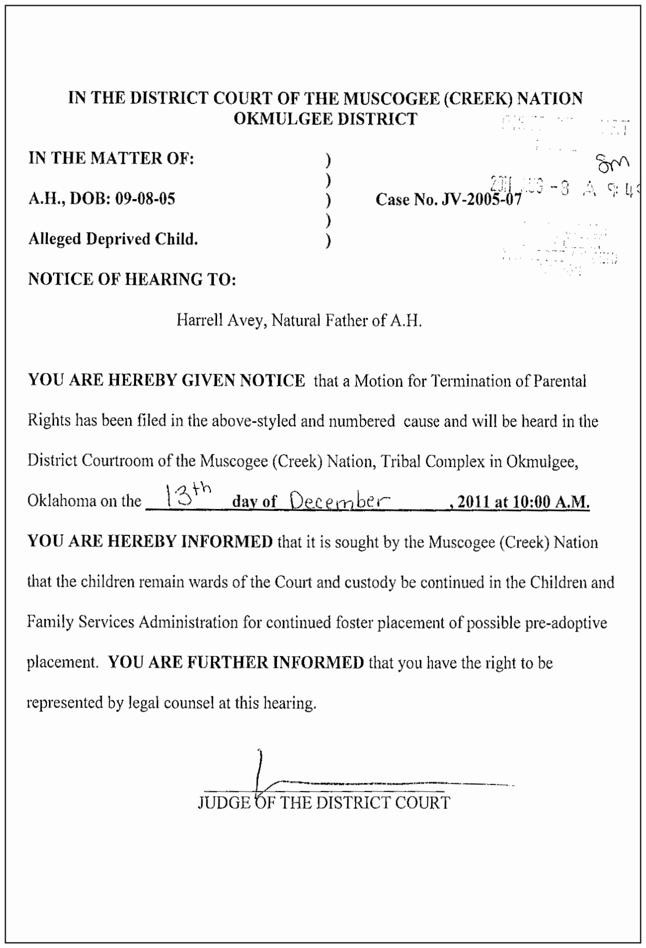
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 1st day of November 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of September 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shalon Mullenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Sm
2011 UG -8 A 9:4

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
A.H., DOB: 09-08-05) **Case No. JV-2005-07**
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

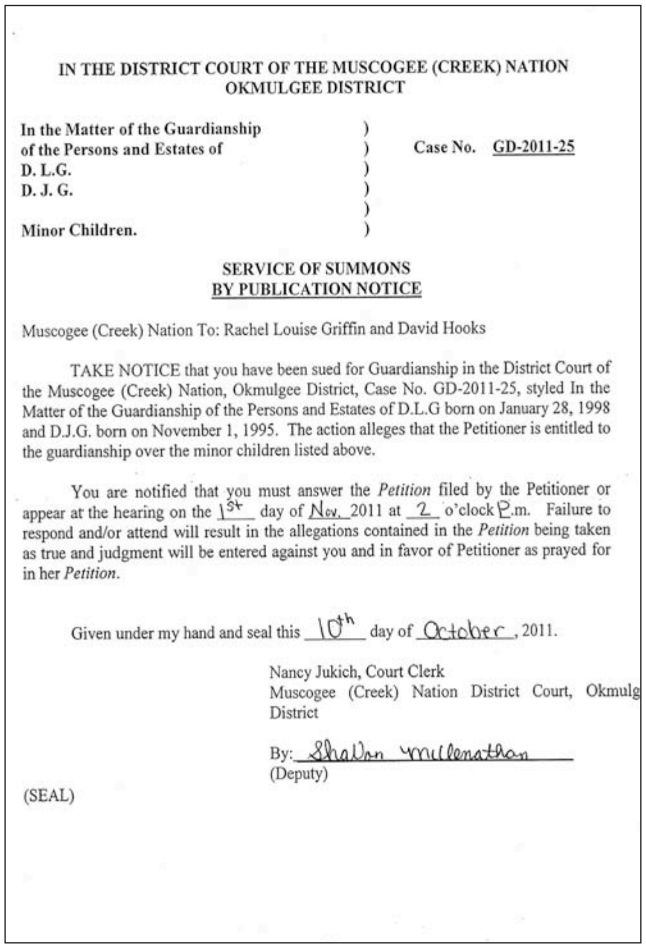
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Harrell Avey, Natural Father of A.H.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion for Termination of Parental Rights has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 13th **day of** December **, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
of the Persons and Estates of) **Case No. GD-2011-25**
D. L.G.)
D. J. G.)
)
Minor Children.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Rachel Louise Griffin and David Hooks

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD-2011-25, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Persons and Estates of D.L.G born on January 28, 1998 and D.J.G. born on November 1, 1995. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to the guardianship over the minor children listed above.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 1st day of Nov. 2011 at 2 o'clock P.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 10th day of October, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulg
District

By: Shalon Mullenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Nov. 1, 2011
Volume 41, Issue 17

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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Tiger survives “Flud”

• MCN voters choose Tiger as Principal Chief-elect

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters chose George Tiger as Principal Chief-elect with Tiger earning 56 percent of the vote on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011.

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The election battle was one of a long-time political presence of a Creek lawmaker who campaigned vigorously against a candidate who entered the race late and maintained a lower profile in his campaign.

On Saturday, Nov. 5, the first election returns showed George Tiger ahead by about 100 votes in the election for Principal Chief and he never lost that lead over the course of the evening. Tiger’s vote margin over Mike Flud grew to about 600 votes and that’s where it stayed.

The final unofficial tally was 2,942 for Tiger to 2,175 for Mike Flud, a 56 percent to 44 percent difference.

SEE TIGER - A2

Barnett elected Second Chief

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Roger Barnett will move from the legislative branch to the executive branch, after being elected as Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Barnett defeated Louis Hicks, deputy director of the Human Development Department, in the run-off General Election on Nov. 5.

SEE SECOND - A2

Citizens re-elect entire National Council

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — All incumbents on the ballot for Seat A on the National Council were re-elected. The only district without an incumbent on the ballot was Okfuskee District. Frank Coachman was elected to Okfuskee District with 2,651 votes against opponent Mitch Jack’s 2,199 votes, according to unofficial election results released Monday.

McIntosh and Okmulgee districts had two incumbents in the run-off election held Nov. 5.

Darrell Proctor, current Seat A holder, beat Selina Jayne-Dornan. Dornan is the current Mayor of Eufaula, Okla.

David Nichols defeated current Seat A holder, James Jennings for the Okmulgee District.

Shirlene Ade, of Tukvpvtce; Robert Hufft, of Tulsa and Johnnie Chalakee Greene, of Wagoner districts were all re-elected.

Ade earned 60.28 percent of the vote against James McGirt. Robert Huff, current Seat G, of Tulsa, defeated Lucian Tiger III with 2,507 votes against his 2,366.

Greene defeated Mark J. Randolph with 2,633 votes against 2,245.

Election results are unofficial until Friday, Nov. 11, at 5 p.m. The MCN Election Board will certify the results on Monday, Nov. 14, according to the Election Board office.

A2 LEGAL

Letter to the Editor

A3 LEGAL

Letter from the Editor

A4 CAPITOL NEWS

Pass-in-Review set for Nov. 10

A5 LOCAL

Eufaula Skate Zone to host Senior Thanksgiving party

A6 COMMUNITY

Muscogee (Creek) Nation celebrates “Food Day”

Letter to the editor

Citizen enjoys Twin Hills community

TWIN HILLS — Rebecca, this note is to tell you what a great time we had at Twin Hills, the young members helped the elders unload and load our cars when the market was over... They were very helpful to elders from Okmulgee Indian Community... We had a nice time visiting with old friends and sharing food with all and most of all, our friend Keeper Johnson was there and we shared the OU football game with him... Thanks Twin Hills! You are indeed a great community!

- Esther Grona
Okmulgee Indian Community

Second

Continued from A1

Currently, Barnett, 50, is serving as Speaker of the National Council and is the Seat C representative for Creek District. Barnett has served on the National Council for 12 years.

"It's an overwhelming feeling right now," Barnett said on Monday, following the election.

Barnett will continue acting as Speaker of the National Council until Dec. 31.

In the General Election, Barnett unofficially received 59.2 percent of the votes, or 2,995 votes against Hicks' 2,064. Barnett received 1,030 votes in the Primary Election held in Sept., earlier this year to advance him to a run-off with Hicks.

Along with Principal Chief-elect candidate George Tiger, Barnett will begin his term of office on Monday, Jan. 2, 2012; the first Monday of the new calendar year, according to the Constitution.

In 1999, Barnett ran for the Office of Principal Chief, but was defeated by incumbent Perry Beaver.

"I think that was one of my better choices, but it gave me the experience of what it took and what people looked at," Barnett said about his campaign experience for chief.

Election results are unofficial until Friday, Nov. 11, at 5 p.m. The MCN Election Board will certify the results on Monday, Nov. 14, according to the Election Board office.

Barnett is the son of Eleanor Rachel (Wilson) Barnett of Bristow and the late Joseph Barnett. He has an associate degree in Applied Science from Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee and studied at Northeastern State University, in Tahlequah. He has three children: Eco, Chenoa and April. Barnett is from Concharty Tribal Town and is of the Wind Clan.

Tiger

Continued from A1

In conceding the race, Flud said that he recognized the Creek people's choice for the top leadership post and that he was grateful for his chance to give years of service to the Muscogee Nation. He added that he would probably end that service with a resignation and plans to retire, stepping down from the Board of Regents for the College of the Muscogee Nation. He said the main thing he wants Tiger to do as chief is "to do what he promised. I'm counting on him to be a man of his word and keep his promises," Flud said in interviews granted to local newspapers.

In discussing his victory, Principal Chief-elect Tiger thanked his supporters, saying their desire for change carried the election, "Well, overall about the campaign, we had a lot of hard workers. Many times they left their families to work on this campaign because they believed in the message we had to share with our tribal members. It culminated with what we had tonight."

Tiger said, "The people have spoken and said they wanted change. In essence, the people themselves took their government back with this victory through our campaign."

The Principal Chief-Elect has been working on putting together his administration. He said there is a transition team being finalized and he hopes to present his slate of "attainable goals" in his State of the Nation address in Jan. High on his list of priorities he said, are creation of jobs and economic development. Tiger added that he is a "strong advocate" for a visible presence on the federal and state levels. He said, "The tribe needs to be ahead of the game. We best serve ourselves by having a presence in D.C. or Oklahoma City.

In putting together a new Muscogee government, Tiger said there will be a lot of changes for his cabinet of administrators. There have been hundreds of inquiries he said, but he has a commitment to tribal members. Tribal staff members are a good resource that should be acknowledged, "We have employees who are good employees. We need to support them. I hope to meet with every one of them. We're all on the same boat." He plans to carry that out in group sessions and some individual meetings.

Tiger has experience in business development and serves on the Board of Regents for Haskell Indian Nations University. Tiger has been a multi-term National Council member and was elected as Speaker in 2006. Tiger is married to Frances Tiger, of Bristow, and is a member of Hickory Ground Tribal Town and is of the Wind Clan. Tiger will be sworn in Saturday, Jan. 7.

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from Aug. 1, 2011 through Aug. 31, 2011 are as follows:

Family Domestic:		Ex-Parte	
OCSE, ex rel., Solena Scott v. Simon Scott	Child Support	Stephanie Smith v. Anna Bartlow	Ex-Parte
OCSE, ex rel., Vanessa Shaw v. Simon Scott	Child Support	Kimberly Williams v. Terry Soweka	Ex-Parte

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Muscogee Nation News
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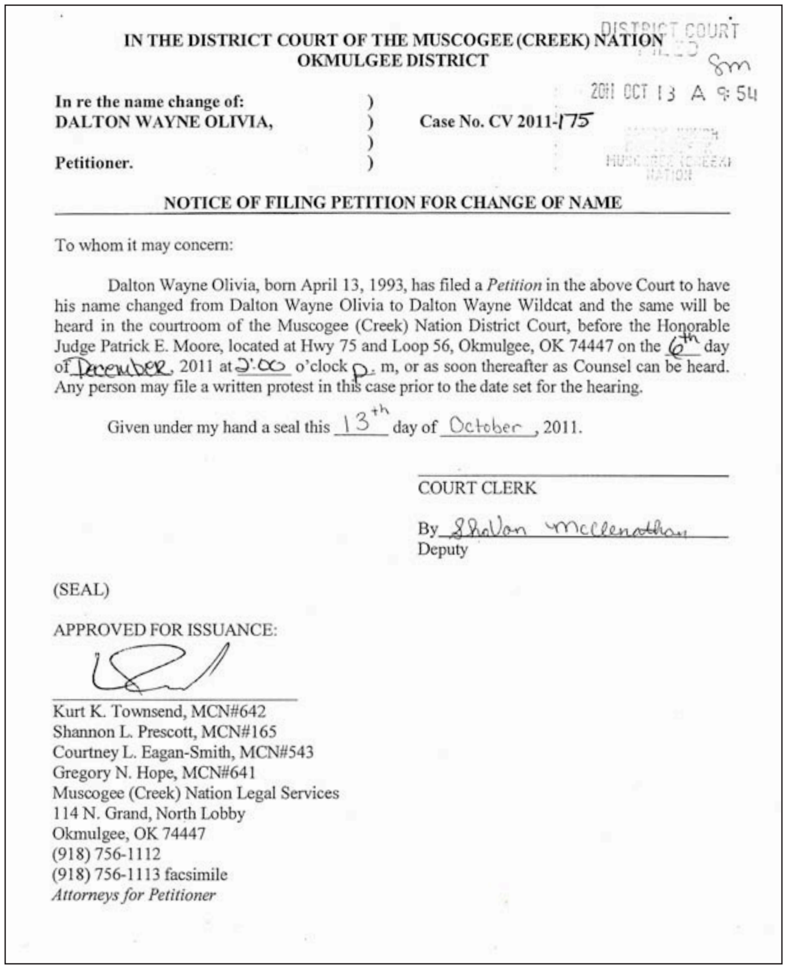
Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.



DISTRICT COURT
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2011 OCT 13 A 9:54

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the name change of:)
DALTON WAYNE OLIVIA,) **Case No. CV 2011-175**
)
Petitioner.)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To whom it may concern:

Dalton Wayne Olivia, born April 13, 1993, has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Dalton Wayne Olivia to Dalton Wayne Wildcat and the same will be heard in the courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore, located at Hwy 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, OK 74447 on the 6th day of December, 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p. m, or as soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 13th day of October, 2011.

COURT CLERK

By ShaVon McClenathan
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
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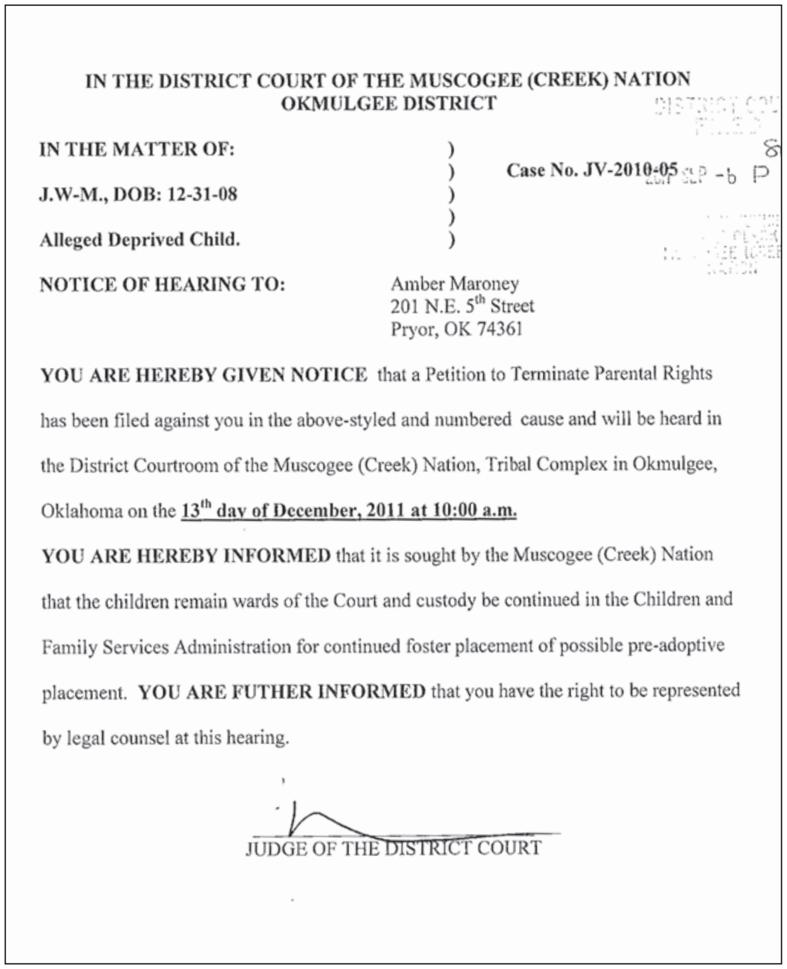
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

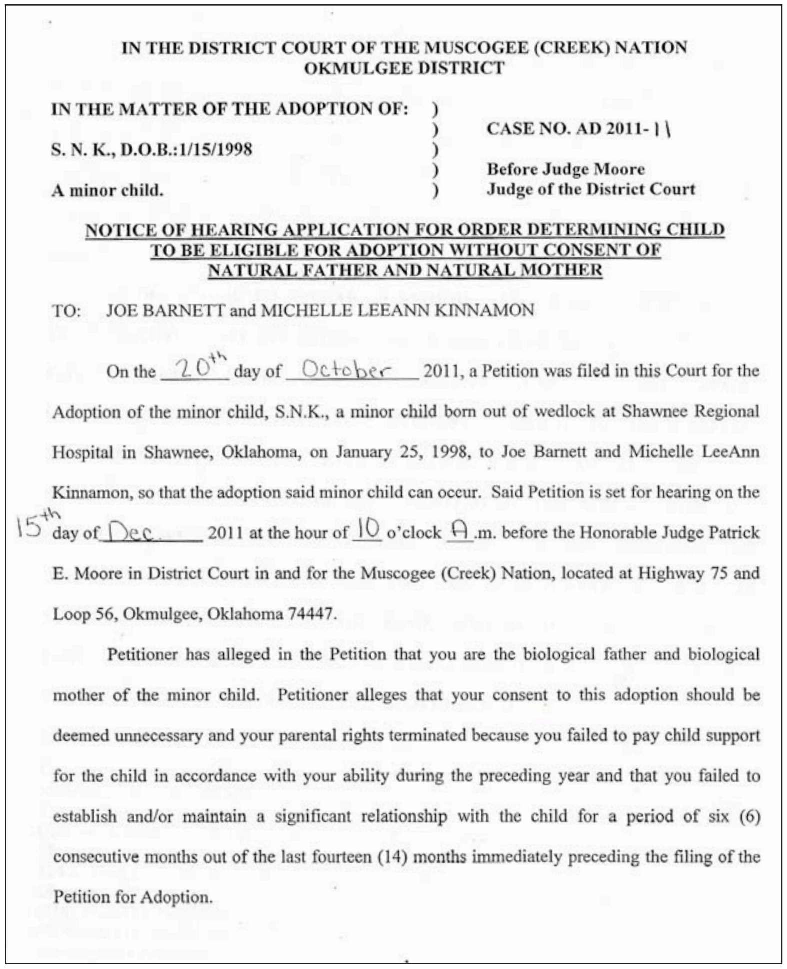
IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2010-05**
J.W-M., DOB: 12-31-08)
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:
Amber Maroney
201 N.E. 5th Street
Pryor, OK 74361

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

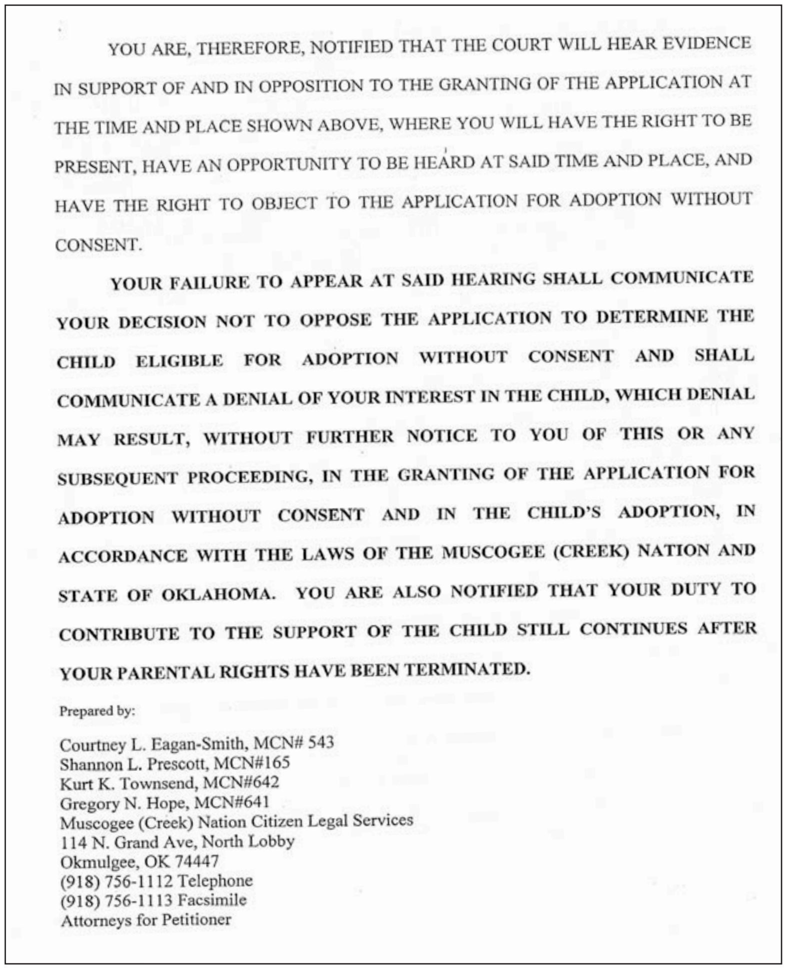
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:)
) **CASE NO. AD 2011- 11**
S. N. K., D.O.B.:1/15/1998)
) **Before Judge Moore**
A minor child.) **Judge of the District Court**

NOTICE OF HEARING APPLICATION FOR ORDER DETERMINING CHILD TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF NATURAL FATHER AND NATURAL MOTHER

TO: JOE BARNETT and MICHELLE LEEANN KINNAMON

On the 20th day of October 2011, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Adoption of the minor child, S.N.K., a minor child born out of wedlock at Shawnee Regional Hospital in Shawnee, Oklahoma, on January 25, 1998, to Joe Barnett and Michelle LeeAnn Kinnamon, so that the adoption said minor child can occur. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 15th day of Dec. 2011 at the hour of 10 o'clock A.m. before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

Petitioner has alleged in the Petition that you are the biological father and biological mother of the minor child. Petitioner alleges that your consent to this adoption should be deemed unnecessary and your parental rights terminated because you failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption.



YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT.

YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO DETERMINE THE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND STATE OF OKLAHOMA. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

Prepared by:

Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN# 543
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko, Mvskokes?

The people have made a decision and chosen leaders with years of tribal experience.

As the results were being updated on the MCN web site throughout election night, it was next to impossible to get the page to load.

This made me aware of two things: I need faster Internet and there were a ton of people getting information regarding the election online this year.

There is no doubt the way we get our news is changing. I noticed many of the candidates utilized social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter for their campaign events, contacts and platform sharing. These mediums also provided an opportunity for immediate feedback from citizens, supporters and even opponents.

I could never replace my favorite medium (the one you're holding in your hands) but I hope the new administration recognizes the importance of allowing citizens to express themselves and their opinions, especially where their government is concerned, in any medium of their choosing.

And for those of you reading the online version of the MNN, mvto.

Look for a new layout in January 2012. We are excited.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7720 or email me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

VASO Pass-in-Review set for Nov. 10

Ken Davis
Director, VASO

OKMULGEE — This year in celebration of Veteran's Day, we will conduct a Pass-in-Review march as is the same with the United States of America Nov. 10, 2011.

MVSKOKE SULETAWVLKE
ESTOFIS EKVNV HOMVN SAPAKEARES

The newly-elected and outgoing President is granted the honor of having the United States military Pass-in-Review. We are no different.

The purpose of a Pass-in-Review is to honor the elected civilian leadership and to confirm to all, the military is under command and control of the civilian officials.

We will conduct a Pass-in-Review to honor Principal Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, and our newly-elected Chief and Second Chief.

GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION I.T.

The order of march will be Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps.

We plan on casting 400 commemorative coins to be given to participating Muscogee veterans after the march. The coins will have the Muscogee (Creek)seal and Veterans Office.

Coins numbers 1/400 will be given to Principal Chief Ellis, coin 2/400 will be given to Second Chief Berryhill, 399/400 will be given to the newly elected Second Chief and 400/400 will be given to the newly-elected Principal Chief.

The symbolism of these coins' numbers to our chiefs is to confirm the military is within command and control of our civilian officials.

We will assemble at 10 a.m. Nov. 10, 2011 at the Veterans Building where we will form and rehearse until 12 p.m. Chow is from 12-1 p.m. From 1-2 p.m., we will conduct a dry run and last minute adjustments. At 2 p.m., we will conduct a Pass-in-Review, which will be from VASO to the east of the Mound Building.

Please contact VASO your commemorative coin may be reserved. In closing, we march once every four years to honor the peaceful transition of power in our tribe; it should be honored and will be protected and recognized by us, the veterans of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

God bless our Muscogee Veterans, our Muscogee (Creek) Nation and our continued peaceful political process.

Library houses resources for citizens and culture

Eulala Pegram
MCN Library Volunteer

OKMULGEE — *As a retiree recently who returned to my home state and tribe, I enjoy volunteering in several areas of interest to me in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.*

As an educator with experience and background in news reporting, I am particularly proud and drawn to write about some of the great new tribal activities I see happening. Some of those observations will be covered in upcoming and recurring articles in the MNN. This is our first installment.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Library

One of my first recent visits to Creek Nation was to our tribal library located in room 122 of the Human Development Building. The library and archives contain an impressive array of Muscogee research, genealogy, history, library and cultural material being preserved for future generations of citizens and scholars.

Rose Johnson is the Cultural Preservation Librarian. She is also the resident genealogy expert to help with lineage records and research. Every time I have been in the library, Rose has been talking with and helping someone with their family genealogy. She is a fluent Muscogee speaker and reader.

Rufus "Buddy" Cox is the knowledgeable, efficient and articulate archivist in charge of all the valuable book and cultural collections in the library.

The friendly staff recently received and processed a private citizen's library of nine large boxes containing over 450 books donated to the library. These were unpacked, sorted and processed quickly by archivist Buddy Cox and the library staff and are now ready to be cataloged as time allows.

Any collector may donate their valuable books and collections to the library for safekeeping and accessibility. The library staff also includes secretary Johnnie Wesley who is always ready to help Rose, Buddy or visitors with whatever needs doing.

Recently, the staff hosted 11 librarians from public libraries around Creek Nation, Oklahoma County and the State of Oklahoma who are reaching out to tribal libraries across the state in an effort to explore ways to improve networking. That meeting is already creating some promising cooperative collaborations to benefit the Muscogee Nation library, with more information to be shared as it becomes available.

The guest librarians were welcomed by Ted Isham, Manager of MCN Cultural Preservation. Isham ensures the preservation of the tribal cultural history, archives, language, library and genealogy material. Ted was formerly the Curator of the Creek Counsel House Museum and currently teaches the Muscogee language at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Other possible family history help provided by the tribe includes family genealogy information (Rose Johnson in the library), information on the Final Creek Roll books in the library and a website with Creek obituary information from Muscogee Nation News from 1976, 1980-2004, searchable by date and name. It is located at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~okbits/musnation.ht

CREEK NATION Casino CHECOTAH
PEARL HARBOR GIVEAWAY
NOVEMBER 11, 2011
10AM-3PM
ALL VETERANS RECEIVE A $5.00 FREE PLAY VOUCHER & FREE LUNCH
3 HOPPER DRAWINGS
HONOLULU, HAWAII - DECEMBER 4-8, 2011
• 2 PEOPLE
• 4 NIGHTS
TICKETS TO THE USS ARIZONA @ PEARL HARBOR
COMPACT RENTAL CAR, HOTEL & AIR
VETERANS PRESENT YOUR MILITARY/VETERANS I.D. @ THE PLAYERS CLUB
• MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN
• THIS DRAWING IS FOR VETERANS ONLY!!
SEE PLAYERS CLUB FOR DETAILS!!
830 N BROADWAY - CHECOTAH , OK

What would *cepose* have called it?

Media Release
Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative

OKMULGEE—The staff at Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative is interested in knowing what Mvskoke words citizens, their families, and/or communities can come up with to describe foreign / new food introductions such as 'banana' and 'potato chips' in the language.

Tell us what you think or what you think your grandmother or great-grandmother would have called it? The first submission that comes the closest to the Dewar elders' new word coinings for these foods will receive a free MFSI T-shirt.

The Dewar elders' words and the winner will be published in the December issue of the MFSI newsletter and on the web site.

Please mail entries to: Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative, 100 E. 7th, Suite 101, Okmulgee, Okla. 74447 or e-mail Stephanie Berryhill at sberryhill@mvskokefood.org

Eufaula Skate Zone to host senior Thanksgiving party Nov. 19

Media Release
MCN Eufaula Skate Zone

EUFAULA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Services will host a Senior Citizen Thanksgiving party and dance at the Eufaula Skate Zone and event center Nov. 19, 2011 from 2-6 p.m. The skate zone is located at 800 Birkes Road in Eufaula.

There will be a free barbecue dinner, a showing of "Our Spirits Don't Speak English: Indian Boarding School," bingo, music and door prizes.

Admission is free to all MCN senior citizens. No reservations are required.

Every Monday night in Nov., and Dec., there will also be a senior dance and activity night at the skate zone and event center. Events are open to all senior citizens. The cost is $4 and the event runs from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. For more information, call (918) 732-7723.

Social Services discontinues monthly community field site visits

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — According to a memo released Oct. 21, beginning November 2011, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services will no longer be visiting individual community sites every month.

The numbers served did not support the expense of the travel and leaving the Okmulgee office short-staffed. Most clients prefer to mail, fax, or visit the Okmulgee office, rather than wait for the field visits to their communities.

Keeping the staff in Okmulgee will help expedite all cases rather than leaving the office short-staffed. The Okmulgee office receives an average of 170 calls per day and 25 walk-ins per day (additionally, clients can go to their local community on any day and fax their paperwork).

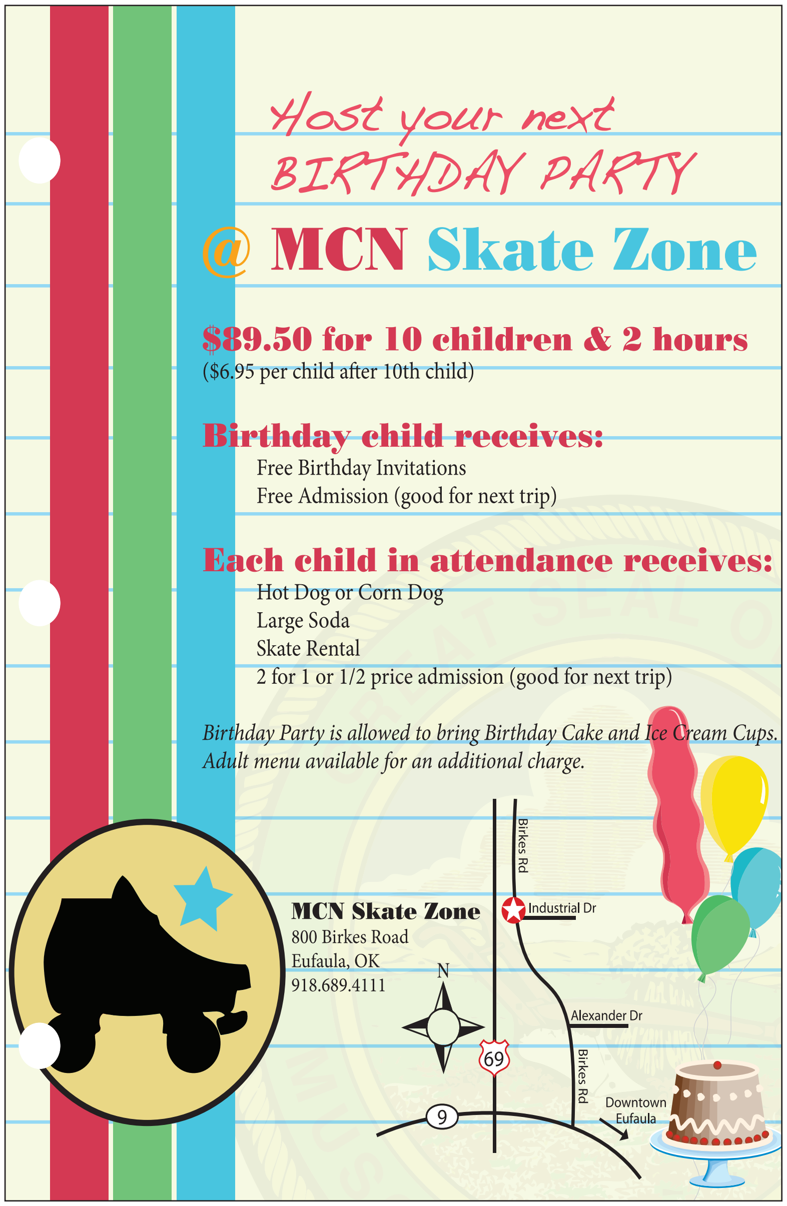
For FY11, Social Services saw a total of 103 between nine field sites.

The majority of clients seen are in Jan., and June for LIHEAP walk-ins. We will continue to visit sites on these months. Additionally, we are seeing an increase in the number of clients at the Southern Regional Office.

Representatives from the office will continue to visit Wetumka every month. The schedule for FY12 is available below.

For more information, please contact MCN Social Services at (918) 549-2430.

Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 12, 2012 June 14, 2012 (Food Distribution Days)
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 18, 2012 June 20, 2012
Eufaula	Skating Rink 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 11, 2012 June 13, 2012 (Food Distribution Days)
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 26, 2012 June 28, 2012
Koweta	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 10, 2012 June 12, 2012 (Food Distribution Days)
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	January 17, 2012 June 19, 2012
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	January 19, 2012 June 21, 2012
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	January 17, 2012 June 19, 2012
Wetumka	Food Distribution 9:00 am – 11:00 am	1st Thursday of every month



Host your next
BIRTHDAY PARTY
@ MCN Skate Zone

$89.50 for 10 children & 2 hours
($6.95 per child after 10th child)

Birthday child receives:
Free Birthday Invitations
Free Admission (good for next trip)

Each child in attendance receives:
Hot Dog or Corn Dog
Large Soda
Skate Rental
2 for 1 or 1/2 price admission (good for next trip)

Birthday Party is allowed to bring Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Cups.
Adult menu available for an additional charge.

MCN Skate Zone
800 Birkes Road
Eufaula, OK
918.689.4111

Tulsa Indian Community hosts culture day lunch

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

TULSA — About 60 Muscogee members of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community (TCIC) shared a potluck lunch of traditional Muscogee foods, Oct. 13 for their annual Native Culture Day. Wearing traditional tribal clothing, guests shared fellowship.

The center, near the Jenks exit on Hwy. 75, held the celebration as part of their schedule of activities designed to highlight Creek heritage and provide elders with some opportunities to socialize.

Attendees listened to speakers discuss elements of their own tribe's cultures. One of the speakers, Gloria Moore, Navajo, is with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes program. Moore spoke about her traditional Navajo name, her regalia and the Navajo use of a cradleboard as her presentation.

TCIC offers members senior citizens lunch, access to a Tulsa area employment book, and free Mvskoke Creek and Choctaw language classes.

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within five years of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

MCN plays it's part in National Food Day

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — National Food Day is an awareness campaign for the entire world. It's aim is to remind people to eat the right kinds of food and eliminate diet related diseases. Keeping physically fit is a key part of the plan. That message has come home to the Muscogee people by observance of a Food Day program sponsored by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative and Food and Fitness Policy Council.

Rita Williams is Community Educator, Policy Coordinator and a Fitness Council Member. She said, "What we initiated was the collaboration for the Muscogee people to become involved in this world day event to bring back awareness for food sovereignty, food sustainability and food security."

That's an enormous challenge in this world of junk food and nutritionally lacking meals, according to Williams, "The challenge is huge. We have to remember way back to after Removal, then the diet of commodities and those disparities that we're now the product of."

Secretary of the Nation Kevin Dellinger read a proclamation of behalf Principal Chief A. D. Ellis, declaring Muscogee Food Day, coinciding with the national awareness day. Event organizers had set up informational tables, and sold sack lunches of a turkey wrap, health bar, blue chips and a bottle of water.

MNN/*Gary Fife*

As part of the recognition of National Food Day at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative hosted a farmer's market with items such as Indian pumpkins.

A small farmers market sold Indian pumpkins and other produce. The Muscogee Division of Health supplied T-shirts and water bottles with filters as give-a ways.

Part of their objective, Williams said was to encourage the community to participate in the growing of their own food whenever possible and to address childhood obesity. She added that fitness plays a critical part in a healthy body, "You could have the best diet in the world, but without the movement, without the physical action, the body becomes broken down. So, we address those issues, too."

In spite of the size of the problem, Williams thinks progress is being made, "Yes, we are. Visiting with our dieticians, our diet program, our walking program—there are things there that they are doing. People are becoming more and more aware and educated to the foods that are around them."

"We're not going to be a nation, if we're not a healthy nation."

Citizens urged to be aware of additional stress this holiday season

Rachel Lindemann LPC, LADC
MCN Behavioral Health

SAPULPA — As the cooler weather and changing season approaches, we may notice the store shelves begin to line with Thanksgiving and Christmas attire.

For many, the holiday season brings a sense of joy and a special time to share with loved ones. This can also be a time of increased stress, anxiety, and demands. Those facing financial pressures, loneliness, grief, job loss, or other concerns are at a higher risk of substance abuse, depression and anxiety.

Protective factors such as a healthy support system, realistic goals, self-care, and a positive outlook can be worthwhile. Many people find it beneficial to keep a list of friends ready to call if needed.

Realistic goals and expectations such as budgeting expenses and prioritizing a to-do list can also be advantageous. Self-care activities are constructive measures for managing stressors.

Examples include eating well, getting enough sleep, relaxation, exercise, and an overall mindfulness towards wellness. Having an action plan and staying busy are invaluable resources.

Volunteering or donating for others in need can help with feelings of loneliness and make a difference in the lives of others. In sum, by utilizing a range of methods, individuals can find effective skills to manage their holiday stressors.

Gates Millennium Scholarship due Jan. 11, 2012

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

FAIRFAX, Va. — High school students interested in applying for the Gates Millennium Scholarship program have until Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

The Gates Millennium Scholarship will be awarded to 1,000 students for use at any accredited college or university they choose.

Eligible applicants must be African American, American Indian/ Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American. Applicants must have attained a cumulative high school GPA of a 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted) or have earned a GED diploma and be Pell Grant eligible, according to the GMS website. Scholarships are only available to students enrolling for the first time at an accredited US college or university, as a degree-seeking student.

Students who classify themselves as American Indian or Alaska Native will be asked to provide proof of tribal enrollment or a certificate from a state or federally recognized tribe.

The Gates Millennium Scholars Program was established in 1999 and is funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The program has funded more than 15,000 Gates Millennium Scholars since the inception of the program.

For more information, check out the GMS website at gmsp.org

OCU offers scholarship for Native students

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City University has scholarships for qualifying American Indian high school students interested in continuing their studies that OCU.

The scholarships will help pay the remaining balance for tuition; room and board; provide a $200 book allowance from the Clara Lupper Book Library; and support services dedicated to growth, welfare and success for each student.

Applicants must be entering Oklahoma City University as a first-time freshman the fall after high school graduation. General student admission include a minimum ACT score of a 22 or a 1020 on the SAT or have a 3.0 GPA and rank in the top half of their graduating class.

The deadline to apply is March 1, 2012 and is funded by the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Oklahoma City University is located in the midtown district in Oklahoma City, Okla. The university is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and is an urban, private university that offers degrees in liberal arts and science disciplines.

Students interested in applying for the American Indian Scholarship program may visit www.okcu.edu/students/multicultural for details on eligibility and how to apply.

For more information about the program or OKCU, students may contact Chris Roman Nose, Coordinator of Multicultural Programs at (405) 205-5501 or email at cromannose@okcu.edu

Cancer Care Community Education offered through Nov. 17

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — Every Tuesday and Thursday through Nov. 17, the Native Navigators will host cancer continuum sessions at the Multipurpose building at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

The classes will be offered every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Participants over the age of 18 will receive an incentive for attending a session. Incentives will be given at each session.

For more information, contact Kathy Cole at (918) 441-6048, Loretta Denny at (918) 441-6049 or Debra Isham, the Project Director at 1-855-623-1189.

Creek children in need of tribal foster homes and adoption

Media Release
MCN Children and Family Services

OKMULGEE—November is National Adoption Month. It's time to raise awareness about the adoption of children and adolescents from foster care. This year's focus is to recruit parents for the children and youth awaiting permanent families within our state.

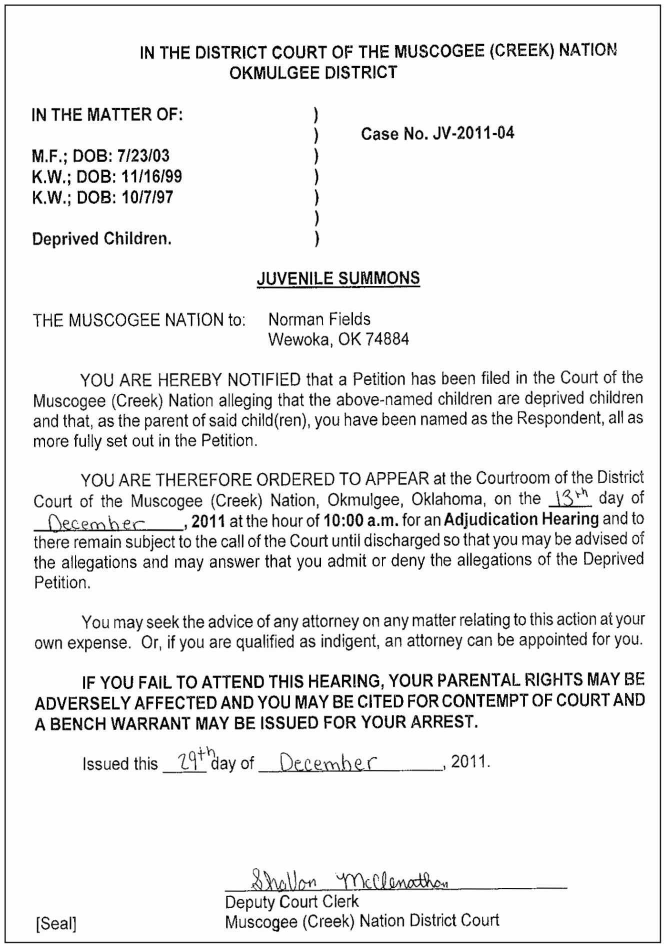
In the state of Oklahoma, there are hundreds of Creek children in state custody and over 100 children in tribal custody. There is an increasing need for many more tribal homes.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services is devoted to our children; the keepers of our tradition. Working together, we can change a child's life. These children need a loving home. Why not yours?

We realize that this is a lifelong commitment, with many questions and concerns. We are here to help. You DO NOT have to be perfect to be the perfect parent!

For more information contact: Tammi Reed-Barnett at (918)732-7883 or tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Change a life.
Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent
GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION I. T.
Children. Keepers of our tradition.
NICWA
National Indian Child Welfare Association
Protecting our children • Preserving our culture
Preserve our heritage, become a foster/adoption parent today.
In the State of Oklahoma, there are Muscogee Creek Children in state and tribal custody looking for a place to call "cuko" (home).
Become a Foster/Adoptive tribal homes.
For more information contact: Tammi Reed-Barnett
at (918)732-7883 OR email: tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2011-04**
M.F.; DOB: 7/23/03)
K.W.; DOB: 11/16/99)
K.W.; DOB: 10/7/97)
)
Deprived Children.)

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Norman Fields
Wewoka, OK 74884

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named children are deprived children and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 13th day of December, **2011** at the hour of **10:00 a.m.** for an **Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

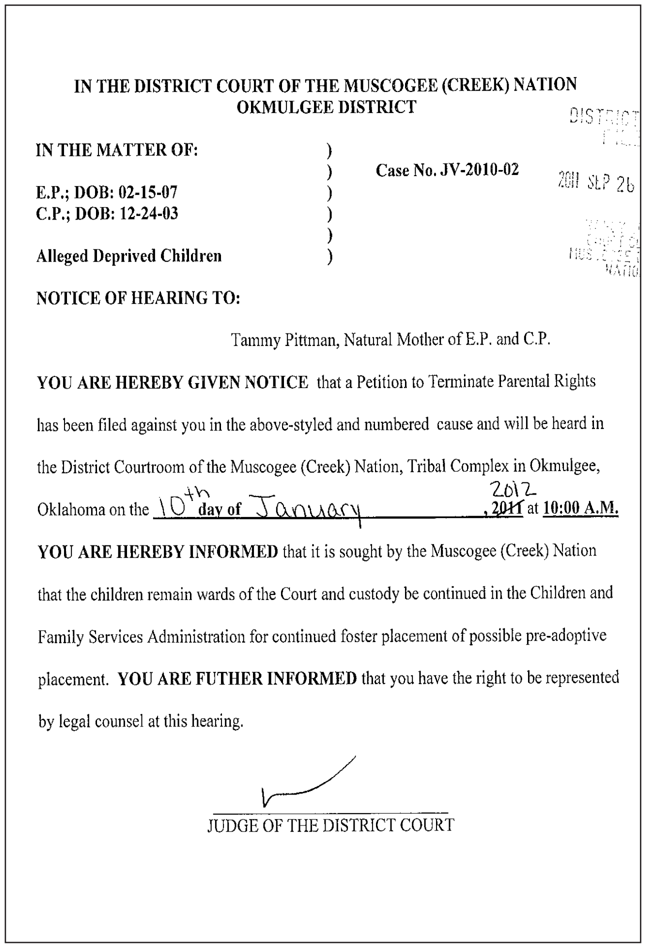
You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 29th day of December, 2011.

Shallon McClenathan
Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

[Seal]



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT
2011 SEP 26

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2010-02**
E.P.; DOB: 02-15-07)
C.P.; DOB: 12-24-03)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

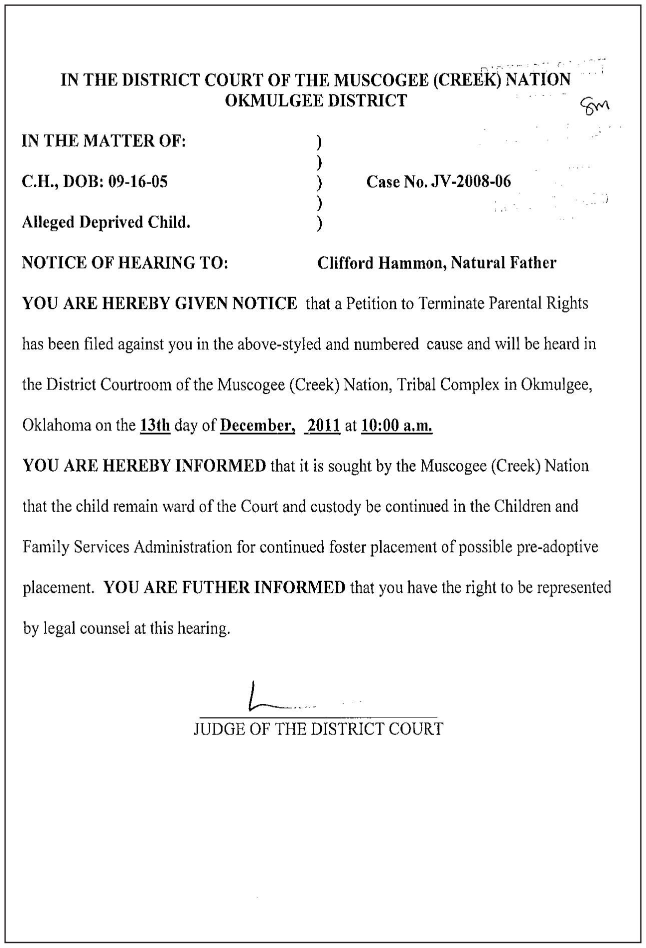
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tammy Pittman, Natural Mother of E.P. and C.P.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10th **day of** January **, ~~2011~~** 2012 at **10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

8m

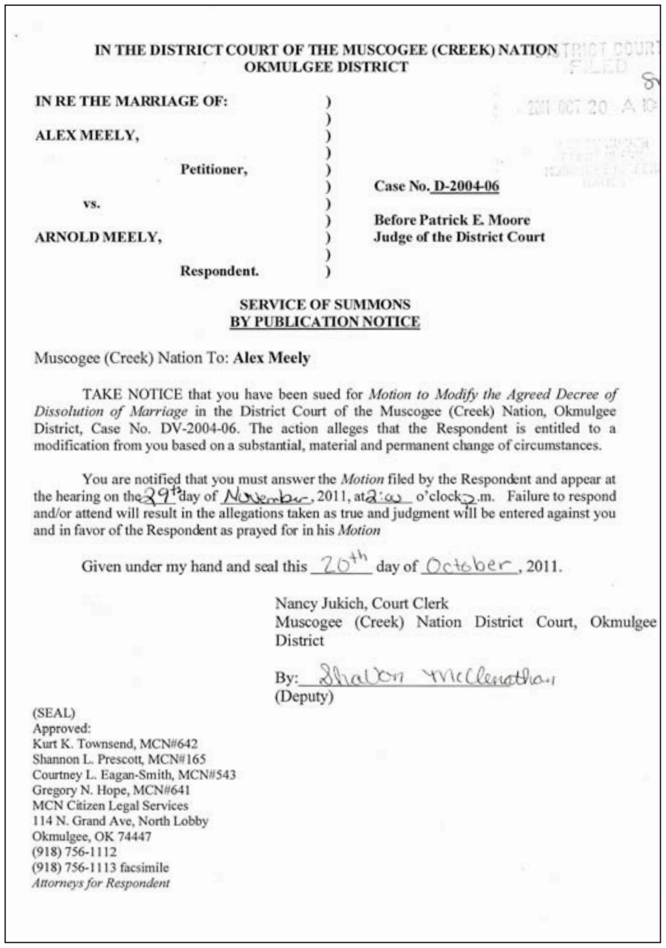
IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
C.H., DOB: 09-16-05) **Case No. JV-2008-06**
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO: **Clifford Hammon, Natural Father**

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th** day of **December, 2011** at **10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
8m
2011 OCT 20 A 10

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:)
)
ALEX MEELY,)
)
Petitioner,)
) **Case No. D-2004-06**
vs.)
) **Before Patrick E. Moore**
ARNOLD MEELY,) **Judge of the District Court**
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: **Alex Meely**

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for *Motion to Modify the Agreed Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2004-06. The action alleges that the Respondent is entitled to a modification from you based on a substantial, material and permanent change of circumstances.

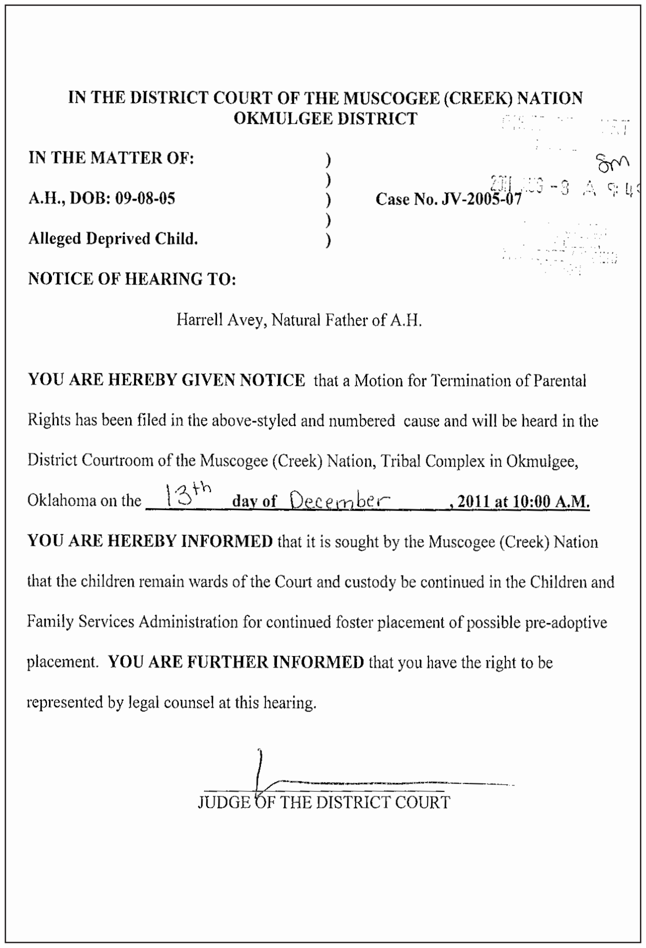
You are notified that you must answer the *Motion* filed by the Respondent and appear at the hearing on the 29th day of November, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of the Respondent as prayed for in his *Motion*

Given under my hand and seal this 20th day of October, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Respondent



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

8m

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
A.H., DOB: 09-08-05) **Case No. JV-2005-07**
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

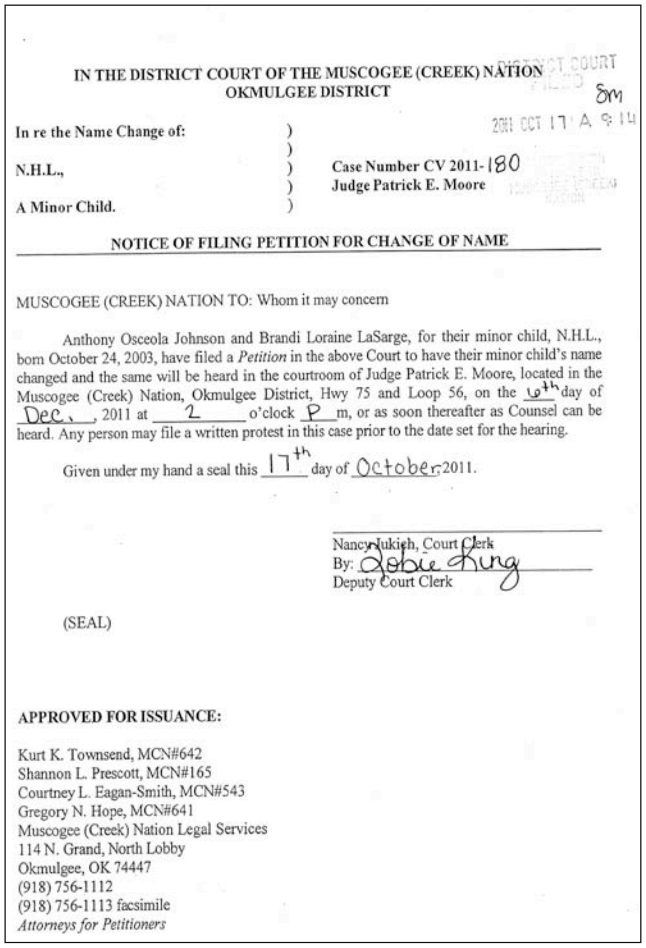
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Harrell Avey, Natural Father of A.H.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion for Termination of Parental Rights has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 13th **day of** December **, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
8m
2011 OCT 17 A 9:14

In re the Name Change of:)
)
N.H.L.,) **Case Number CV 2011-**180
) **Judge Patrick E. Moore**
A Minor Child.)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Anthony Osceola Johnson and Brandi Loraine LaSarge, for their minor child, N.H.L., born October 24, 2003, have filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have their minor child's name changed and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Hwy 75 and Loop 56, on the 6th day of Dec., 2011 at 2 o'clock P m, or as soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 17th day of October, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Lobie King
Deputy Court Clerk

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioners

FEATURES

SECTION B

Nov. 1, 2011 edition

"Fighting like girls"

• Preventing domestic violence in Indian Country

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — "I FIGHT LIKE A GIRL who refuses to be a victim." That was the theme and challenge to attendees at the Mound Building, Wednesday, Oct. 26, who came to hear presentations on the subject of domestic violence.

The auditorium was nearly full of people listening to a panel of professionals discuss experiences working with victims of domestic violence.

On a national basis, it is estimated one in three Native American women will experience some form of domestic violence in her lifetime. The MCN Lighthorse have responded to six calls since Jan. 1 of this year.

Shawn Partridge, Project Coordinator for the MCN Family Violence Prevention Program said this year's program was a switch from having the victims share experiences, "This year we kind of mixed it up a little bit, and had professionals talk about their experiences in working with victims, the things they've seen in their respective professions."

Although a precise number of victims who are Muscogee wasn't available, Partridge said, their client load shows that number would be large. "What I can tell you is that we have a staff of seven and we are busy day in and day out. Whether that is assisting clients directly, whether that is going out into the communities and providing education and awareness—some of the national statistics indicate that 39 percent of Native women experience domestic violence—their intimate partner domestic violence during their lifetime—that's a rate higher than any other ethnic group," Partridge said.

FIGHT
LIKE A
GIRL

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Participants of the Domestic Violence Awareness presentation received resources for protecting themselves against abuse and information from professionals within the nation that deal with the impact of this crime on Muscogee (Creek) families.

Current information indicates that violence perpetrators are not strangers, but someone who is known to victims. "We tend to work with women that are victimized by their spouses, dating partners, boyfriends. However, according to tribal and state code, domestic violence committed by family members against one another falls within the definition of domestic violence."

MCN Lighthorse reports there were six calls for domestic violence in 2011, which is average according to Richard Fixico, investigator. Most of the cases involved an intimate partner and alcohol and/or drugs could have been involved although specific numbers are not available.

The Family Violence Prevention Program aids only the victims of domestic violence at this time. A resource for perpetrators is not available here, but that may change in the future.

SEE PURPLE - B2

SRO offering local employment and training services

Media Release
MCN Employment and Training

WETUMKA — A full-time Employment and Training employee has been assigned to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Southern Regional Offices located in Wetumka, Okla., after a noticeable increase of clientele requests for E&T services was noted by the Office of the Executive Director.

In order to better serve the Native population residing south of I-40, Debbie McGirt will bring 32 years of experience to the office and will be available beginning Monday, Nov. 7.

Hours will be Monday from 8 a.m.-12 noon (closed 1-5 p.m., Mondays only), Tuesday through Friday 8 a.m.-12 noon, (closed from 12-1 p.m., for lunch) and 1-5 p.m. Any questions raised when McGirt is out of the office may be referred to the SRO representatives at the welcome desk.

For more information on vocational training at SRO located at 333 S. Washita in Wetumka, please call (405) 452-1155 or fax information to (405) 452-1196.

Sapulpa Indian Community to elect officers Dec. 5

Media Release
Sapulpa Creek Indian Community

SAPULPA — Sapulpa Creek Indian Community will hold officer elections during the month of Dec.

Any Creek citizen living within the boundaries of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in becoming a member of the community may apply for membership to vote in the upcoming election by Nov. 18, 2011.

Members of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in filing for candidacy in an elected office may be subject to a Background Check and drug testing with the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community.

Registered members are also encouraged to update their contact information with the community at this time.

Officer elections will be held Monday, Dec. 5, 2011. A list of the positions will be published at a later date.

For more information contact Wanda Weaver at (918) 645-7772 or the Sapulpa Indian Community Center at (918) 227-9627.

B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country: *Signs of Thrift and Evidence of Prosperity*

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Euchee Heritage Festival

B4 ARTS

Smithsonian Exhibit to open on Veteran's Day

B5 SPOTLIGHT

Owasso freshman shines at State Championship

B7 PEOPLE

Awards: Mary Harjo

Mvskoke Country: *Signs of Thrift and Evidence of Prosperity*

by James Treat

I am taking a break from writing this monthly column for the Muscogee Nation News so I can work on other projects. Interested readers can still find all previous columns, as well as the weekly "field notes," at http://MvskokeCountry.wordpress.com/

In the meantime, I leave you with this short excerpt from one of Alexander Posey's journals, documenting his work with the Creek Enrollment Field Party of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes:

"Oct. 27 [1905]

Investigate a land contest case near Morse — Visit Cindy, the thriftiest Indian woman known hereabouts — She is about 50 and was never married and is as chaste as a Vestal virgin — Many a doughty warrior has sought her hand in vain — She has been beautiful and is still good looking — A sound, sensible and business-like woman — has plenty and her credit in Okemah is as good as gold — Her house, which is on Buckeye Creek, is a quaint place — Instead of building a house of many rooms she has built some half a dozen hewed log cabins of varying architectural designs — The kitchen and dining room are under one roof, but separated by a wide hall or "entry" — The roof sweeps down over the long porch, which is fenced in from the pigs, chickens and sofky dogs by pickets — Her own house is a trim log structure with a stone chimney — A duplicate of this house standing near is her servants' quarter — then there is the smoke house, chicken house, plunder house, barn, hay shed, wagon shed, carriage shed (for Cindy rides in a carriage), well house, and what not. There is a fine orchard and garden, and up and down Buckeye lies a twenty-acre farm white with cotton and yellow with corn — "I made this place myself," she says, "with a man's help." There is a graveyard near by where a number of her relatives are buried. Over their graves she has had erected veritable houses, besides which the common Indian grave house would pale into insignificance. The house over her mother's (Kinta) grave is big enough to live comfortably in — Cindy began making her own way in the world at 15 and is certainly a notable example of what a persevering woman can do — Everywhere about her home there are signs of thrift and evidence of prosperity."

From "Lost Creeks: Collected Journals," by Alexander Posey, edited by Matthew Wynn Sivils (University of Nebraska Press, 2009).

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

Purple

Continued from B1

"Our work is specifically with victims. . . there are grant monies available to implement batterers intervention or re-education type programs, so I think that's something that we as a program and as a nation need to look at, taking on that service as well. So, I'm hopeful that's something that we will be able to do at some point," Partridge stated.

The social stigma of domestic violence is a strong factor that still affects both victim and perpetrator and works to prevent them from seeking help, "It's that shame, that embarrassment, that guilt that keeps people from coming forward and telling somebody or accessing services because it's still one of those things that people don't like to talk about, that they think should be kept quiet."

For the women who come to the Family Violence Prevention program, they can expect several immediate things to find out what the risk level might be. First, they will be asked what is going on at that point. Their safety and possible need for law enforcement will be determined. Next, they will be able to find out whether or not the victim is in need of shelter or a protective order from a court.

Attitudes have been changing with the times and that is reflected in the number of women who are coming forward. Partridge said, "Just the number we had here today participating, wanting more information, coming up to me after it was over, saying 'that was great.' There were so many new faces today. It's something that affects all of us so we can't afford to turn a blind eye any longer and say 'that's not my problem, I don't need to get involved.'"

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

The last two months I have lived in Tulsa, helping out my mother. I left Tulsa when I was a teenager. I fled a difficult home to go to high school at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, which was then a Bureau of Indian Affairs high school with an emphasis in arts. There was also a two-year postgraduate program. I remember three other Creek students there: Sandy and Phyllis Fife, and Richard Ray Whitman. That school literally saved my life, as it did for many of the students who attended. It affirmed my identity as a native person, as an artist, and it gave me a refuge from an abusive situation at home. I left Oklahoma in a trail of pain.

I have returned frequently to Oklahoma over the years, to keep a connection with my family and my tribe. I kept a close relationship with my father, a Creek man, who lived his last years in Texas near the Gulf waters. We both loved the water. When the abusive stepparent died in the early nineties, only then could I return to my mother's house. Before then, I saw my mother at work, or elsewhere.

We human beings are faced with all kinds of tests in this world. We don't always understand them. There are some things that take an eternity to understand. There has never been any doubt as to my mother's love, and I have to believe that the love of the Creator (who is not invested in any religious affiliation) remains steadfast and center to any path, to any endeavor begun with the intent to bring kindness to the world, though sometimes it may seem otherwise.

I considered the path of our people and the test of our path as I gathered with many others in the tribe for the 26th Annual Council Oak Ceremony on a warm, fall day in Tulsa. We stood together at the place the Locvpokv people from our nation arrived after our forced removal from our Alabama homelands. The Locvpokv people placed ashes from their original fires at the base of an oak tree on the hill where we now stood, many years and generations later, near the Arkansas River. I felt the connection between us like the beautiful and mysterious light from the fire, threading us together. I drank in every word spoken, felt every little breeze, and particle of sun. I listened to the poetry in the speech by our Chief of Staff, Edwin Marshall, the wise threading of history in the words of Ted Isham, our Cultural Preservation Manager, and took to heart the words of the many other speakers.

We may not understand the why of the injustice of the bloodshed, the forced move far away from our beloved lands, but we are in a story that winds through eternity. And we are still standing together.

I needed the people that afternoon. I was fresh with grief from my mother's passing from this world.

I felt the memory of the people as it lives in our bones. I renewed my promise to carry my part of the story home the best way possible.

This is home. This is what home means.

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Family Advisory Meeting

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health is looking for members for a family advisory committee. The family advisory committee will give input on our services and future plan.

A meeting with be held on Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2011 from 6-7 p.m., at the MCN Housing Authority Building located at 2951 North Wood Drive, Okmulgee, Okla. 74447.

Meetings are held every third Tuesday of each month. The MCN Behavioral Health encourages Creek members to become a member of this committee. This committee will empower families and give m them voice in the decisions that affect patient care and family experience. For more information, please contact Protecting the Future-Creek Nation Mental Health Initiative at (918) 224-9307. Transportation and childcare can be provided upon request.

Euchee Heritage Festival

KELLYVILLE — The Euchee Heritage Festival will be held Nov. 11-12, 2011 at the Creek County Fairgrounds in Kellyville, Okla. On Friday, Nov. 11, there will be a traditional dinner, a play in the Euchee language and a bingo. On Saturday, Nov. 12, there will be a bow shoot and horse shoe tournament with prizes awarded and a traditional church hymn singing.

Demonstrations of bow making, traditional dress, ball stick, belts, shells and more will be available. There will also be a raffle and 50/50 drawing, food baskets and a stomp dance.

For more information or to register as a vendor, please contact Wade Bucktrot at (918) 378-9385. Donations will be accepted. The Euchee Heritage Festival will not be responsible for accidents or theft. Alcohol, drugs and firearms are not permitted.

The festival will be held at the Creek County Fairgrounds located at 17806 W. Highway 66 in Kellyville.

Flat screen TV drawing

OKMULGEE — Children and Family Services is selling tickets to raffle a 37” flat screen television. Tickets are on sale for two for $1. The drawing will be held on Nov. 14, 2011 at 3 p.m.

For tickets, contact a CFSA staff member of the office at (918) 732-7869. All proceeds go towards the CFSA angel tree.

Holdenville Indian Community Women’s Health Summit

HOLDENVILLE — The Holdenville Indian Community will host its fourth annual Women’s Health Summit on Nov. 18, 2011 from 8:30-2:00 p.m. Registration is open from 8:30-9:00 a.m.

Sponsors for the summit include the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Community Health Representatives and the Holdenville Indian Community.

The Holdenville Indian Community is located at 224 E. Poplar St. in Holdenville, next to the Creek Nation casino. For more information, please call (405) 379-3485.

University of Oklahoma Fall Pow Wow

NORMAN — The American Indian Student Association at the University of Oklahoma in conjunction with Norman Public Schools Indian Education Program will host a benefit pow wow at Norman North High School’s gymnasium on Nov. 19, 2011.

There will be special contests: Fancy Shawl, Fancy Dance, Jingle Dress and Grass Dance. Each contest is sponsored a student organization from both the University of Oklahoma and Norman North and Norman High School.

For more information, please contact Corey Still at (918) 822-4421. For vendor information and accommodations based on disability are available, please contact Lindy Waters at (405) 325-1468.

Norman North High School is located at 1809 Stubbeman Ave. in Norman, Okla.

Reintegration Program Coat Drive

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program is hosting their first annual coat drive and still taking donations of new or gently used coats. Donations can be dropped off at the MCN Reintegration program or arrangements can be made to have them picked up.

For more information, please contact Becky Bilingsly at (800) 259-1059 or (918) 652-2676.

Glenpool Community officer elections cancelled

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool Indian Community officer elections, which were scheduled for Nov. 15, 2011 have been cancelled until further notice.

For more information, contact Dianna Billie at (918) 691- 6006.

Family Advisory Meeting

SAPULPA — A revival will be held Nov. 25-27 at Covenant Harvest Ministries in Sapulpa, Okla. Speakers include: Pastor Henry Busby from Sapulpa; Pastor Julius Rodriguez from Tulsa; and Pastor Richard Pickup from Salina.

Refreshments and a nursery will be provided. For more information, please call (918) 447-4518. Covenant Harvest Ministries is located at 722 N. Hodge in Sapulpa.

Angel Tree is on display

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services has their annual angel tree on display. Individuals are invited to come by and pick up an angel from the tree or call to make arrangements. Donations are greatly appreciated.

The angel tree will be on display until Dec. 1. The tree is located at the MCN complex community services building. For more information, please call (918) 732-7869.

MCN complex closings

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal complex offices will be closed Friday, Nov. 11 in recognition of Veteran’s Day.

Offices will also close Monday, Nov. 21, 2011 in recognition of Native American Day and for the Thanksgiving holiday Nov. 24-25.

Editor’s note: Please submit contact information for all community calendar events.

THURSDAY
TURKEY HUNT
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Smithsonian's *Native Words, Native Warriors* exhibit to hit MCN on Veteran's Day Nov. 11

Media Release
MCN Museum & Cultural Center

Archives/Smithsonian Institute

Codetalkers used Native languages to send messages throughout World War I and II. The codes utilized by the U.S, military were never broken.

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum and Cultural Center will soon host a special exhibit featuring Native American servicemen and servicewomen, which is scheduled to open on Veteran's Day in the Veterans Affairs Services Office Building on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex.

The exhibit titled Native Words, Native Warriors was produced by the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) and the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES). The exhibition was made possible with generous support of Elizabeth Hunter Solomon. Additional support has been provided by the Smithsonian Women's Committee and the AMB Foundation.

The exhibit will be enriched by its surroundings, extensive displays of Muscogee veteran mementoes, awards, uniforms and documents. Additional recognition of Muscogee veterans will appear on newly designed panels of historic photos and stories which complement those coming from the NMAI.

Native Words, Native Warriors tells the remarkable stories of Native American soldiers who used their Native languages as weapons to aid the U.S. military during World Wars I and II. These soldiers came from many tribes: Assiniboine, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Chippewa, Choctaw, Comanche, Cree, Crow, Dakota Sioux, Hopi, Kiowa, Lakota Sioux, Menominee, Meskwaki, Muscogee, Navajo, Oneida, Pawnee, and Seminole.

These tribes helped the military on more than one continent, on the seas, and in more than one war. As early as October 1918, during World War I, Choctaw soldiers in northern France used their language to save American soldiers. The Germans intercepted and decoded almost every message the Americans sent until eight fluent Choctaw soldiers became the first to use their Native language to send secret messages in modern warfare that were never decoded.

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, which led to America entering World War II, the U.S. Army again sought Native language speakers. The Army recruited Comanche, Choctaw, Hopi, Cherokee, and Muscogee as well as other tribes to transmit messages in their Native languages on European and African battlefields.

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, 14 Comanche Code Talkers were serving in the 4th Signal Corps, 4th Division, U.S. Army and hit Utah Beach at Normandy as part of the great invasion. Their language helped turn back the Nazis at St. Lo and again in the Battle of the Bulge.

The Navajo code talkers of World War II have had the most exposure in documentaries and motion pictures. Their assignment was to develop a formal code for messages that even native Navajo speakers would not be able to interpret. They had to memorize over 200 code terms, but the number of code terms tripled during the war.

Since the ancient Native languages did not include modern terms of warfare, code talkers used clan names, called various aircraft by the names of different birds and adapted other animal names to fill in for tanks and other war machines. For example, the Comanche called bombers "pregnant birds."

Such operations were kept secret for many years. In fact, it was not until 1968, 23 years after World War II ended, that the United States government declassified the Navajo code talker program. Once the required silence was broken, many Native servicemen received their long overdue recognition.

Since Native peoples have a rich warrior heritage, it is hoped that the subject matter and messages within this exhibit will resonate with tribal members in the state and that non-Native people will better understand the roles played by Native languages in the two World Wars.

The Muscogee people are very proud of their veterans, of their patriotism, and of their history of military service, so it seemed appropriate to expand the exhibit to feature Muscogee veteran heroes who have served in World War I through current conflicts.

To that end, John Beaver, Museum Director and Curator, enlisted the help of Shawn Taryole, Technical Media Specialist for the Muscogee Veterans Affairs Office and a talented graphic artist. "I truly enjoyed doing this work, working with the photos and producing the creative layouts," explains Taryole who created all of the supplemental panels to complement those coming from the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

Beaver was pleased to work with the Muscogee Veterans Affairs on both the setting for the exhibit and on part of its content. "Mr. Ken Davis (Director of Veterans Affairs) knew the stories of our veterans, and Mr. Taryole is very good at putting it together. Both gentlemen were terrific to work with."

The end result is a presentation of riveting accounts of military service in all branches and stories of heroism that will speak to the heart.

While the Muscogee (Creek) Museum and Cultural Center is still in its design phase Beaver is excited to be presenting this high quality exhibit now, as a prelude to what the Museum will eventually be able to offer.

There is no admission charge for the exhibit which will run Nov. 11 through Feb. 29, 2012 in the Veterans Affairs building at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex located on Highway 75 in Okmulgee. Student groups are welcome. For more information, call Muscogee Tourism & Recreation at 918-732-7992 or visit www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

For an online version of the Smithsonian Native Words, Native Warriors, please visit http://www.nmai.si.edu/education/codetalkers/html/chapter4.html

Smithsonian Institution

“She’s only a freshman!”

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY — “She’s only a freshman,” is what the crowd kept saying when she got up to bat. “She’s only a freshman,” is what they said when she made a play on defense at the 2011 Oklahoma State Championship Fast Pitch Softball Tournament in Oklahoma City in Oct.

Mikayla Waggnor, 15-year-old freshman starter for the Owasso Rams, has been making a lot of noise this season for this powerhouse softball team. She has also had the eyes of her teammates, coaches and crowds of opposing teams watching her moves as well.

For the season, Waggnor is second on the team in hitting and currently playing second base. Remember, she is only a freshman, and for a team that is returning to the state tournament, this says a lot about her skills.

One person who has been impressed this year is Coach Shane Eicher. “Mikayla is starting for us as a freshman, which says a whole lot about Mikayla,” says Eicher. “She is great defensively and a great hitter. She is second on the team in hitting and with a team full of deep Division I talent, that really says a lot about her. Need I remind you, she is only a freshman.”

MNN/*Darren DeLaune*

Mikayla Waggnor,15, plays for two softball teams throughout the year including the Owasso Rams and the OK Shoxx. Earlier this year at the national tournament, Waggnor batted well over .500 as a freshman. She is pictured below with father, B.J. Waggnor.

Waggnor not only plays for the Owasso Rams, but also has a summer team called the OK Shoxx where in August of this year, they won Nationals with Waggnor batting well over .500 for the tournament.

Although she is playing second for the Rams, she plays shortstop for the Shoxx with the ability to play anywhere her team needs her, whether it is in the infield or outfield.

With all the noise she makes on the diamond, it is actually tough to get her to speak in person. When she is out on the field though, she lets her talent do the talking.

“I want to come out every game and play my very best,” Waggnor said. “That is one of my goals is to come out, play well and to help our team win the state championship as a freshman.”

Unfortunately, the Rams came up short in at the tournament this season (with a loss to Union in the finals) but getting that close to the gold ball will give them that much more motivation going into next season.

Along with Waggnor, there are numerous starters coming back so the chances are pretty good for a return trip to the American Softball Association (ASA) Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City next year.

Waggnor made the second All-District Team for this season and after the state tournament, led the team in batting averages.

One thing is for sure, opposing teams will cringe trying to stop this “phenom” for the next three years, after all, “She’s only a freshman.”

Waggnor (Creek) is the daughter of Sevena Tiger and B.J. Waggnor.

Creek singer performs National Anthem in Mvskoke

Gary Fife
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The United States National Anthem is a very inspirational piece of music to some Americans and can stir the patriotism and love of country in the hearts of listeners. It brings such a strong emotional reaction especially when it’s soaring notes and powerful lyrics are performed by a talented and gifted singer.

But a Muscogee woman with the name “Singing Tiger—Kacv yahikv” brings a whole new meaning and perspective to the song. Nicole Delpratt performs the Anthem in Mvskoke in a glorious voice that brings chills to those who get the chance to hear her. The first time she performed the song in Mvskoke was at commencement ceremonies this year at the College of the Muscogee Nation.

Delpratt described it as a real honor, “It’s a privilege. Just the National Anthem itself is very moving. The chance to sing it in our own native tongue is very moving. The first time you heard me was the first time I had ever sung it.” She laughed, saying she had very little time to rehearse it, “I only had a week to learn it, so I was pretty nervous. But, I just kind of went through it. It was pretty good.”

Coaching her, she said, was her father, Don Tiger, a Muscogee language instructor at the College, “He actually helped me translate it, and kind of go with it, so he taught me.”

Singing is a hobby for Delpratt, something she enjoys doing in her own time, “Actually, it’s sort of something I love to do. I usually sing in church. We had a praise and worship team that I was on. Something I love to do. I don’t really sing in the shower a lot. But, I just love to sing.”

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Nicole Delpratt sings the National Anthem in the Mvskoke language.

Many other singers have tried and failed miserably at performing the National Anthem, but for Delpratt, singing the tune and with lyrics in the Mvskoke language, was not something she couldn’t handle. “It just comes from the heart, really, I know that all these famous artists try to make it their own, but they put too much into it. This is really a song that you don’t have to try too hard.” She does admit to having her emotions come to the surface when hearing the Anthem, “I do. I also get chills up my spine hearing it and I can’t recall one time where I’ve heard it and just went to tears. But, just hearing it, and the meaning behind it. When there is something tragic and that reminds us where we are and we’re in the type of place that we are, for our country. We honor it.”

Delpratt has not launched a new singing career because of her patriotic performance, but she said, she is available for singing engagements. Her musical taste is very broad, she added, “ I love all kinds of music. I’m not very picky. If I hear something I like, I automatically want to try it, to sing it.”

THANK YOU

JAMES MONROE MCCOSAR

HOLDENVILLE — Muscogee Citizen James Monroe McCosar, a combat soldier in the Korean War and a Purple Heart recipient, had a friend who was wounded in combat.

James offered comfort to his friend by sharing his faith. James shared that his family and church members at Many Springs Baptist Church in Holdenville were praying for him and he could feel their prayers. His wounded friend told James that he had prayed that God would keep him safe and bring him home safely to his family. James responded "But God did answer your prayer. You're wounded but you're going to be okay. You still get to go home. I get to stay here. You're prayers are answered."

The prayers for James were answered. James returned home to marry the love of his life Patricia Morris McCosar and made their home in Holdenville.

James and Pat were married for over 40 years and gave of their love to one child and five grandchildren.

James was proud of his military service but humble about his honors. Some may remember his beautiful tenor voice as he sang at various gospel singings as well as his humor and how he loved to laugh.

Because of what James meant to his family, we offer our utmost gratitude to Mr. Ken Davis of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veteran's Affairs. Mr. Davis was very instrumental in helping us to get a grave marker from the VA. Thanks to all of his hard work, effort and support we can now set the marker at the grave site.

From the Family of James M. McCosar,

— Mary R. Harjo

OBITUARIES

WESLEY ASBURY

WICHITA, Texas — Wesley Elmer Asbury Sr., 73, of Wichita Falls, Texas, passed away on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2011. Asbury was born on Oct. 25, 1937, to Joseph and Lillie (Lewis) Asbury in Bryant, Okla. He served in the United States Army and later retired from PPG after 34 years of service.

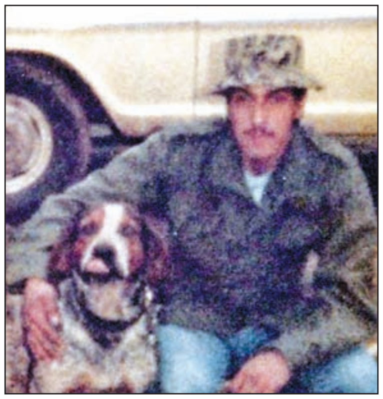
Asbury enjoyed watching football and baseball. His favorite teams were the Dallas Cowboys, Texas Rangers and the University of Oklahoma Sooners. He also enjoyed fast pitch softball and rodeos. He was a member of Pecanway Baptist Church. He was also a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, his ceremonial ground was Arbeka, and he was of the Bear Clan.

He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Marie Asbury, of Wichita Falls, Texas; his children: Pauline Starr, of Tulsa, Okla.; Curtis Joe Smith and wife Anna, of Wetumka, Okla.; Coleman Joshua Asbury, Wesley Elmer Asbury Jr., Lillian Jo Asbury, Charles Edward Asbury and wife Zina and Thompson Lee Asbury, all of Wichita Falls, Texas; his brother, Bill Wise and wife, Anna of Livingston; brother-in-law, Richard Forsey and wife, Polly, of Tulsa, Okla.; sister-in-law Lula Schwegman of Tulsa, Okla.; sixteen grandchildren, twenty-three great-grandchildren, four great-great grandchildren and numerous friends.

The funeral was under the direction of Williamson Funeral Home. Interment was at Wetumka, Okla.

The family would like to express a "Mvto" (Thank You) to the church, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Sidney Lee and all those for the flowers.

SAMUEL BUCKTROT



HENRYETTA — Samuel "Sam" Madison Bucktrot passed away on Friday, Oct. 14, 2011 at the age of 50 in Henryetta, Okla.

Sam was born in Henryetta on March 4, 1961 to Alvin Bucktrot, Sr., and Eliza Harjo. Sam is a graduate of Graham High School. He loved to fish, hunt, and camp. Sam worked as a welder in Dallas, Texas and then later moved to Oklahoma City where he worked as a supervisor for Phil Good Products as a plastics projection. Sam later worked for Okmulgee County as a truck driver and equipment operator. He was a member of the Army National Guard and a member of Iron Post Ceremonial Ground near Bristow, Okla. Sam was Muscogee (Creek) and Euchee of the Tiger Clan.

Sam married Donna Cable in 1985 and they had three children; Samuel "Lil Sam" Madison Bucktrot, Jr.; daughters, Samantha Jean Bucktrot, also known as "Sam's Sweetie" and Keela Cable, all of Cache, Okla.

Sam was a beloved father, brother, husband, and friend. He is survived by his wife, Donna; son and special friend, Crystal Salway; two daughters, Samantha and Keela; his mother, Eliza Harjo of Konawa, Okla.; sister, Alicia Bucktrot of Henryetta; brother, Alvin Bucktrot, Jr., and wife Patsy of Bixby; nieces Jessica and Sheila Beaver of Henryetta; nephews, Bryant and Jonathon Beaver of Henryetta; Kevin Bucktrot, of Tulsa; Keith Bucktrot of Claremore, and Lee Longhorn of Bixby; great-nephew, Kamron Hill of Henryetta and great-niece, Rhylee Rock.

Sam was preceded in death by his father Alvin Lee Bucktrot, Sr., his maternal grandparents, Oscar and Molly Harjo and paternal grandparents, Wysena Madison Bucktrot and Annie Brown Bucktrot.

Pallbearers were Jason Harjo, Mike Harjo, Natahan Bear, James Frye, Buster Bear, Jr., and Vernon James. Interment is at the Harjo family cemetery. The funeral was under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

The family of Samuel M. Bucktrot would like to thank each and everyone for all the good food, the encouraging words, the visits and just being with us at our time of need, the special help and machinery that was used. A special thank you to Wanda Buckley for the beautiful warm blanket. For those who traveled just to be with us.

And our warm loving thoughts and very special thanks to Alvin, Lee, Patsy, Liza and Alicia, we love you.

— Lil'Sam, Samantha, Keela, Donna

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AWARDS

MARY HARJO

Mary Harjo, MSW

NORMAN — Muscogee citizen Mary Harjo, of Oklahoma City, was awarded the Sonja Atetewuthtakewa Award for Distinguished Service in the Protection of Native American Children. Mary received her honor on Sept. 8, 2011 at the Oklahoma Child Abuse and Neglect Conference in Norman.

Mary has worked for the Iowa Tribe in Perkins, Okla., since 2007 and currently serves as the tribe's Child Protection Service Manager. She has a Master of Social Work degree and has been working as a social worker since 1995. Mary is a member of the Bear Clan.

MARY SMITH

CHEROKEE, N.C. — Mary Edwards Smith was awarded first place for her basket weaved rug at the Festival of the Native People art show in Cherokee, N.C. Smith also won third place for a river cane basket at the festival and won "Best of Class." Smith is a noted Muscogee (Creek) basket weaver.

EMILY HARWELL

HANOVER, N.H. — Four years of total focus on academics and community volunteer projects has begun to pay dividends for Prague High School senior Emily Harwell. Dartmouth College, one of eight Ivy League institutions, recently hosted their annual Dartmouth Bound Native American Fly-in.

As a guest, she was flown to the New Hampshire school and provided an all expense paid, four day glimpse of student life.

A citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation, combined with academic achievement, personal character and accomplishment, Emily was chosen as one of fifty students nation wide to enjoy this opportunity.

Emily agreed to "early decision", which binds her to Dartmouth and states she will not apply to any other college or university. This was definitely a bold choice after being approached by both Cornell and Yale

It appears that the future holds a few more years of study for Emily, and a future physician for her Native American people.

BIRTHS

PHAROH EVANS

TOPEKA, Kan. — Pharoh Josiah Evans was born on June 27, 2011 to Terryn Proctor and Evan Evans of Topeka, Kan. Evans weighed seven lbs., 12 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

He has one sister, Evianna Evans. His maternal grandparents are Terry and JoAnn (Harrison) Proctor of Wagoner, Okla. His paternal grandparents are Mando and Anita Evans of Mayetta, Kan.

His maternal great-grandparents are Samarion (Sulphur) Harrison, of Muskogee, and the late Addison Harrison; the late Harold and Geraldine (Rabbitt) Proctor of Kenwood, Okla. His paternal great-grandparents are the late Richard Sr. and Josie (Wamego) Pahmahmie and the late Lyman and Norman (Wabaunsee) Evans.

Evans is from the New Tulsa Tribal Town and is of the Beaver Clan.

BIRTHDAYS

DA'YON BARNES

BEGGS — Da'Yon Barnes celebrated his birthday with a Spongebob themed party. He was born on Nov. 21. He is the son of Branda Barnes. He has two siblings Ilyanna and Da'Juania.

His maternal grandparents are Barney L. Barnes and Renne Bates. His maternal great-grandparents are Mary Verna J. Barnes and Herman Barnes. Barnes is a member of Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and is of the Wind Clan.

INDIA BARNES

BEGGS — India M. Barnes celebrated her birthday on Nov. 3. Her theme for her birthday party was a "Princess" theme. She is the daughter of Lisa M. Barnes and has one sibling, Maurica Furch.

She is the granddaughter of Mary Verma J. Barnes and Herman Barnes. Her great-grandparents are Willie Adams, Sr. She attends school in Beggs.

Barnes is from Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and is of the Wind Clan.

TREVER FISH

OKLAHOMA CITY —Trever Allen Fish celebrated his tenth birthday on Oct. 22 in Oklahoma City at Chuck E. Cheese with family and friends from Glorietta Baptist Church, where he is also a member.

Fish has two brothers Jimmy Jr. and Michael Fish. Fish is the son of Jimsey Fish of Oklahoma City and Ramona Roberts of Mounds.

Maternal grandparents are Mona Lowe of Henryetta and Skipper Roberts of Tulsa.

Paternal grandparents are Mitchell and Jimmie Ruth Fish of Oklahoma City. Fish is a fourth grader at Glenpool Elementary School and is of the Bear Clan.

ENGAGEMENT

BROWN-MCKAUGHAN

MCALESTER — Edna Elizabeth Brown, 31 of Eufaula, is to be married to David Shannon McKaughan, 29 of McAlester.

The bride is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and of the Wind Clan and is the daughter of Jacqueline and David Brinkley of Eufaula and Sherry and William Brown, Jr., of Atoka, and the granddaughter of Edna Belcher and the late Jack Belcher of Eufaula, and Elizabeth and Roy Young of Checotah.

She is a 1999 graduate of Eufaula High School and a 2003 graduate of Wellesley College at Wellesley, Mass,, and is a secretary at the Kiamichi Technology Center in Wilburton.

The groom is the son of Libby McKaughan and the late Roy McKaughan of McAlester, and the grandson of Tommy and Jerry Fugitt of McAlester.

He is a 2000 graduate of Savanna High School and a 2005 graduate of East Central University, and is a Lab Technician at the Warren Clinic in McAlester.

The couple was wed Nov. 11, 2011.

To submit obituaries or announcements, please mail to:

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or email:
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OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Nov./Dec. 2011
Volume 41, Issue 18

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VASO Pass-in Review

• Remembering the past, honoring the future

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief-elect George Tiger shakes hands with current Principal Chief A.D. Ellis at the Veteran Affairs Services Office Pass-in-Review march Thursday, Nov. 10 on the tribal complex grounds.

Media Release
MCN VASO

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation veterans conducted a Pass-in-Review to honor the elected civilian leadership of the nation including Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill, Principal Chief-elect George Tiger and Second Chief-elect Roger Barnett. The order of march was Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marine Corps.

Veterans, onlookers and tribal representatives gathered outside the tribal complex at 2 p.m., Nov. 10, 2011 near the Veteran's Building.

Commemorative coins were given to participating Muscogee veterans after the march.

For more information on Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Services Office, call (918) 732-7745.

Proclamation lifted in Bristow Community

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis issued a proclamation Nov. 8 returning the control of the daily operations of the Bristow Indian Community back to the community.

The management and operation of the community gaming facility shall remain in control of the Gaming Operations Authority Board, according to the proclamation.

The Bristow Indian Community was reorganized under a 2008 Emergency Proclamation and has demonstrated the community members can properly manage the facility, the proclamation continued.

The Bristow Indian Community is located in Bristow, Okla., in Creek County.

Former MCN employees charged with bribery

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — A six-person jury found two former Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees guilty on multiple counts of bribery in the tribe's District Court, Nov. 17, 2011.

Former Tax Commissioner Dana Johnson, 43, and Gene Antone Lee, 41, a former warehouse manager for the MCN Trade and Commerce Authority, were convicted of several counts of bribery.

Johnson was convicted on four counts and Lee was convicted on three.

According to court records, Johnson was convicted on two counts of bribery for accepting a total of $7,100 from Randy Benham, the owner of Briggs Wholesale Tobacco Co., and two counts for accepting a total of $10,000 from Marvin Wesley, a representative of the Seneca-Cayuga Tobacco Co., between August 2009 and December 2010.

SEE BRIBE - A6

A2 LEGAL

District Court filings

A3 LEGAL

Letter from the Editor

A4 SERVICES

MCN Tax Commission adds new signage

"MUSCOGEE NATION"
TAG
CREEK

A5 CAPITOL NEWS

Twenty years after Claude Cox; How has the tribe changed?

A7 EDUCATION

Tulsa Indian Community hosts youth stickball clinic

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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from Aug. 1, 2011 through Aug. 31, 2011 are as follows:

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Benny Spaulding	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Glenda Cohen	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Steven Walkingstick	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Andrea Dial	Ct. 1: Theft

Traffic:

MCN v. Crystal Crawley	DUS
MCN v. Stoney Lewis	Seat Belt Violation
MCN v. James Travis	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Ray Edward Stark	DUR
MCN v. Cecily Deleon	DUS
MCN v. Anthony Schach	DUS
MCN v. Martin Berryhill	Expired Tag
MCN v. Aric Gaines	DUS
MCN v. Ramsey Kaddura	Operating in a Manner not Reasonable and Proper
MCN v. Ramsey Kaddura	DUS
MCN v. Ramsey Kaddura	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Ted Jordan	Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Michael Lewis	Expired Tag
MCN v. Michael Lewis	No Insurance
MCN v. Dylan Been	Expired Tag
MCN v. Iris Rodgers-Grimmett	Expired Tag
MCN v. Blake Lyons	No Seatbelt
MCN v. Blake Lyons	Failure to Carry Insurance
MCN v. Russell Miles	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Kendrick Polecat	No Insurance
MCN v. Kendrick Polecat	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kaitlyn Robinson	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Nancy Poe	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Richard Foy	Disorderly Conduct

The District Court filings from Sept. 1, 2011 through Sept. 30, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Marissa Harjo v. Micahel Sullivan	Petition
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Janetta Brown	Foreign Judgment
Bell Finance v. Cecily Dickerson-Varela	Foreign Judgment
Star Loans v. Marilyn Dunson	Small Claims
Star Loans v. Sharon Franz	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. LaDonna Burns	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Rathine Pendley	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Eugenia McGirt	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Sharon Franz	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Kimberly Martin	Small Claims
Liberty Finance v. Paul Harjochee	Small Claims
Liberty Finance v. Gina Bemo	Small Claims
Liberty Finance v. Sharon Proctor	Small Claims
Liberty Finance v. Michael Proctor	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Sharon Proctor	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Mike Proctor	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Neccettia Harjo	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Samuel Lee	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Amanda Hall	Foreign Judgment
Tinker Federal Credit Union v. Donald Williams	Foreign Judgment
Dixie Finance v. Charles Carey	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Shellie Thomas	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Jerry Pease	Small Claims
Bobbie Coon v. Jacob Galindo	Petition
Royal Finance v. Cheryl Aguilar	Small Claims
Kolepah Berryhill v. Ryan Hicks	Petition
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Ninety-Four dollars ($94.00)	Notice of Seizure & Intended Forfeiture
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. One hundred eighty-four dollars ($184.00) and One Stallard model JS-9 9mm semi auto pistol serial #039768	Notice of Seizure & Intended Forfeiture
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Two Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Eight dollars ($2948.00)	Notice of Seizure & Intended Forfeiture
Leon Dwayne Hamilton, a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Registered Voter v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board, Gloria Factor-Lowe, Vernon Courtwright, Eugenia Tiger, Ms. Linda Cusher, and Angela Diane Barnett-Meeker members	Application
Marvin Fox v. Loleta Horne	Petition
Sammy Clay v. Kayla Fisher	Petition

Divorce:

Minda Jones v. Christopher Jones	Divorce
Amanda Kay Prill v. Phillip Michael Prill	Divorce
Carolyn Fixico v. Myron Fixico	Divorce
Debra Elaine Watashe v. Sylvester Eugene Watashe	Divorce
Donna Smith v. Timothy Smith	Divorce
Janna Henry v. Roger Henry	Divorce
Stephanie A. Eager v. Clint E. Eager	Divorce
Eric Nye v. Felicia Nye	Divorce
Donna Givens v. Samuel Givens	Divorce
Stephanie Mosquito v. Joseph Mosquito	Divorce
April Livingston v. Jeremy Livingston	Divorce
Mikelle Boone v. James Boone	Divorce

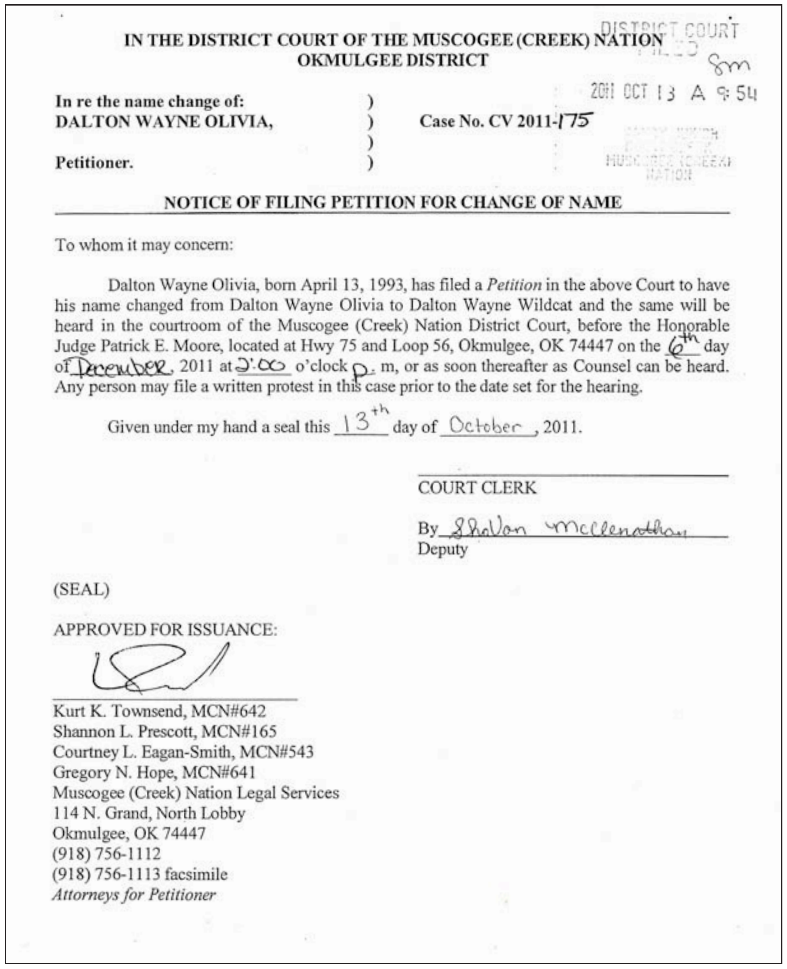
2011 MCN Election results retraction

Media Release

MNN Staff

OKMULGEE — In the Nov. 1, 2011 edition of the Muscogee Nation News, the results for the 2011 Principal Chief's election were incorrectly reported. Totals for both the unofficial and official count reflect George Tiger with 2,942 votes and Mike Flud with 2,177.

The MNN regrets this error and any confusion it may have caused.



DISTRICT COURT
Sm
2011 OCT 13 A 9:54
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the name change of:
DALTON WAYNE OLIVIA,

Petitioner.

Case No. CV 2011-175

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To whom it may concern:

Dalton Wayne Olivia, born April 13, 1993, has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Dalton Wayne Olivia to Dalton Wayne Wildcat and the same will be heard in the courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore, located at Hwy 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, OK 74447 on the 6th day of December, 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p. m, or as soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 13th day of October, 2011.

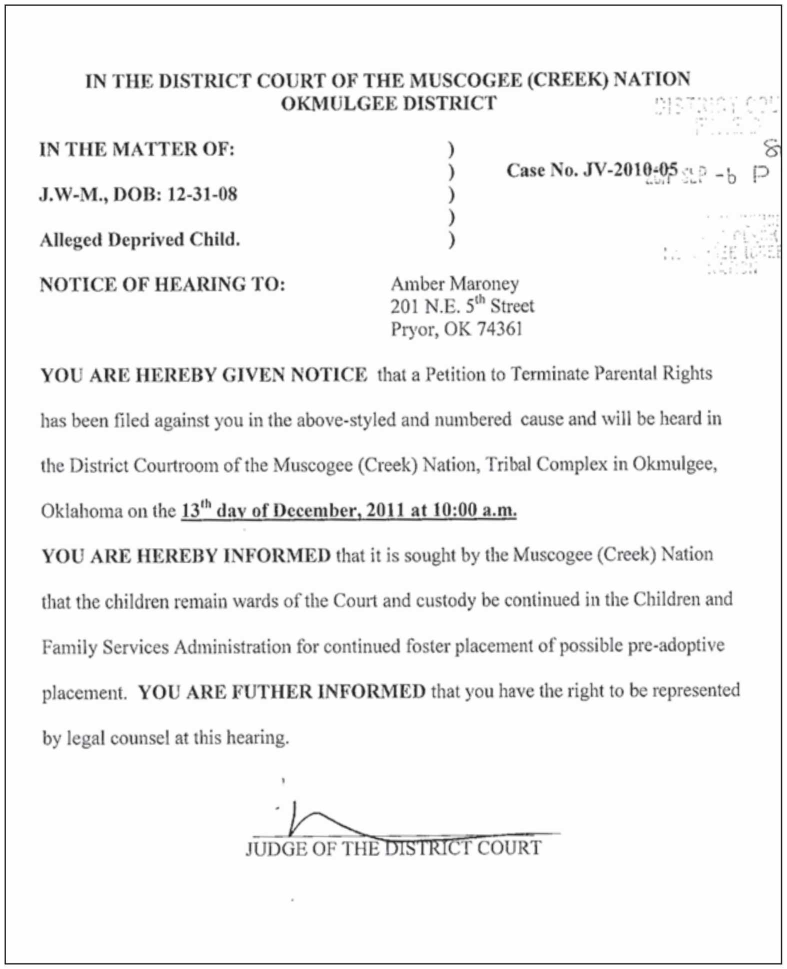
COURT CLERK

By ShaVon McClenathan
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:

J.W-M., DOB: 12-31-08

Alleged Deprived Child.

Case No. JV-2010-05

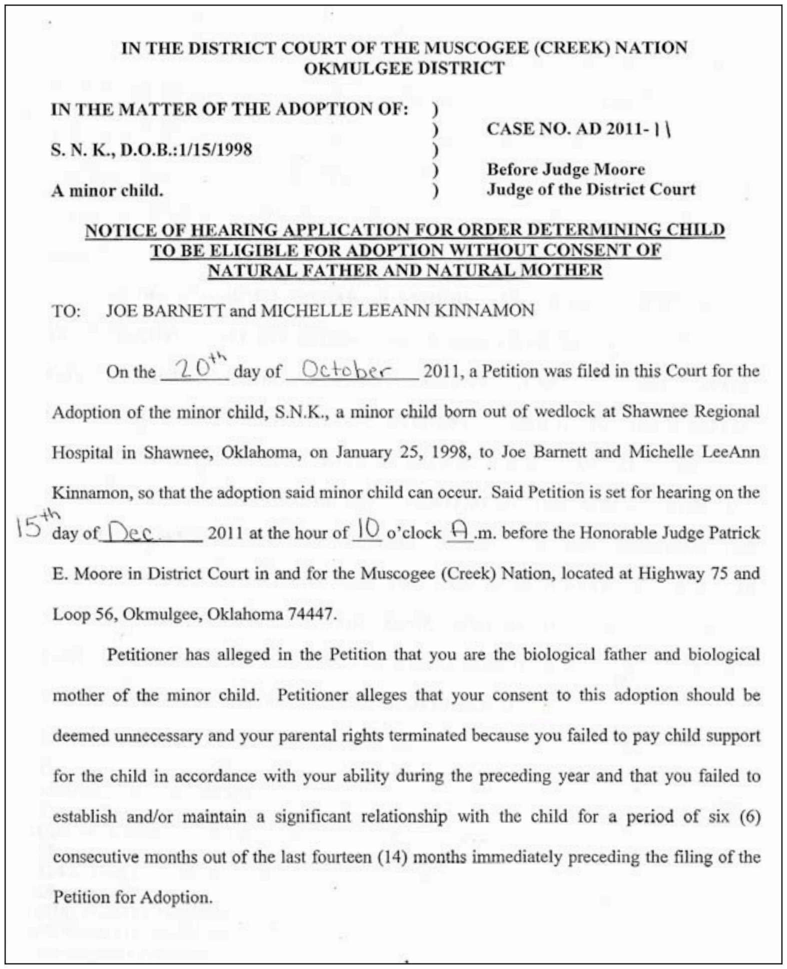
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Amber Maroney
201 N.E. 5th Street
Pryor, OK 74361

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:

S. N. K., D.O.B.:1/15/1998

A minor child.

CASE NO. AD 2011- 11

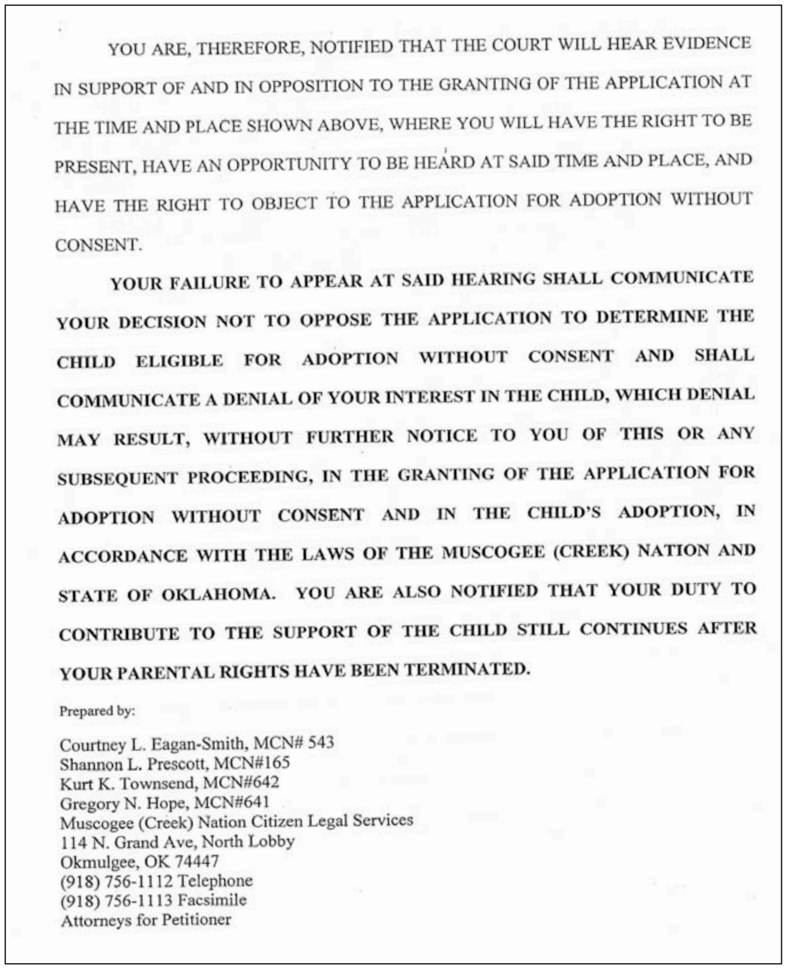
Before Judge Moore
Judge of the District Court

NOTICE OF HEARING APPLICATION FOR ORDER DETERMINING CHILD TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF NATURAL FATHER AND NATURAL MOTHER

TO: JOE BARNETT and MICHELLE LEEANN KINNAMON

On the 20th day of October 2011, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Adoption of the minor child, S.N.K., a minor child born out of wedlock at Shawnee Regional Hospital in Shawnee, Oklahoma, on January 25, 1998, to Joe Barnett and Michelle LeeAnn Kinnamon, so that the adoption said minor child can occur. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 15th day of Dec. 2011 at the hour of 10 o'clock A.m. before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

Petitioner has alleged in the Petition that you are the biological father and biological mother of the minor child. Petitioner alleges that your consent to this adoption should be deemed unnecessary and your parental rights terminated because you failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption.



YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT.

YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO DETERMINE THE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND STATE OF OKLAHOMA. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

Prepared by:

Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN# 543
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112 Telephone
(918) 756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko, readers?

Have you eaten enough turkey to last until next Thanksgiving? I had my usual one piece just so I could say I ate some. I'm more of a ham kinda' gal myself, both figuratively and literally.

You may have noticed this edition is a little later than normal and that's because of the holiday season. The *Muscogee Nation News* will only be printed once during Dec., however, this edition will hopefully fill the gaps. We'll still be accepting submissions for the Dec. MNN until Dec. 8, so if there's something you want to add to the community calendar, you still have some time.

The MNN is on the lookout for a reporter so if there are any budding (or those in full bloom) native journalists interested in covering tribal news, traveling across the jurisdictional boundaries and connecting with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I encourage them to apply. We are looking forward to making some great changes in 2012 and a new reporter will be icing on the proverbial cake.

Full details about this position are available on the nation's website at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Next month we will be closing out the year with a Q&A session with Principal Chief A.D. Ellis by Gary Fife. Don't miss it.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7720 or email me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

MCN Behavioral Health offers support for suicide prevention

Media Release
MCN Behavioral Health Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health program participated in Tulsa's 'Out of the Darkness' walk Oct. 8, 2011 at LaFortune Park.

The fund-raising walk benefits the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) by helping support local and national suicide prevention and awareness programs.

This year's walk raised nearly $7,000 for AFSP vital research and education programs to prevent suicide. The stigma associated with mental illnesses can discourage people from getting help. However, having an event such as this not only allows survivors to tell their stories but also increases the community's awareness and understanding of issues surrounding suicide.

In the United States, a person dies by suicide every 15 minutes, claiming more than 36,000 lives each year. It is estimated that an attempt is made every minute; with close to one million people attempting suicide annually.

Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in the U.S., for the first time since 1998. Nationally, the suicide rate increased 2.6 percent over 2007 to equal 11.8 suicides per 100,000 people.

The rate of suicide has been increasing since 2000. In 15 years, suicide rates are the highest they have ever been. Figures were taken from the Centers for Disease Control for the year 2008. All rates are per 100,000 population.

We encourage Muscogee (Creek) Nation to become familiar with the risks and warning signs of suicide. Speak up if you are troubled, and listen closely to loved ones who speak to you when they are in pain.

Help is available, treatment is effective and lives can be saved. For more information about suicide prevention, visit a physician or health care provider, a mental health agency, or school counselor.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health Programs are available. For more information call (918) 758-1910.

Behavioral Health has been honored with its sixth grant since 2005; the "Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention grant" is the latest to be awarded to Behavioral Health Services. The grant is for $480,000 per year for three years and addresses suicide prevention in adolescents.

Behavioral health seeks to integrate a comprehensive suicide prevention system to detect, prevent, and provide early intervention services.

The population focus for this project consists of American Indian youth between the ages of 10 and 18 years old, who are at risk of developing suicidal behaviors or attempting suicide.

Research completed by the behavioral health program in 2008 has indicated that there is an estimated 9,800 youth in the 10-18 age group in Creek Nation. This grant requires that services be provided to a total of 750 American Indian youth within the service area over the life of the grant.

MCN Tax Commission adds new signage

Media Release
MCN Tax Commission

AND
TAX COMMISSION
•MUSCOGEE NATION•
TAG
CREEK
GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION

MCN/*Tax Commission*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission employees recently developed this "tag" to identify their office space located off Highway 75 on the south end of Okmulgee.

OKMULGEE — "Where is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tag office?" This question has been asked and answered thousands of times over the past 13 years.

Now, for the first time in those 13 years, there are signs on the highway and above the office of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission on Highway 75 (Wood Drive) on the south end of Okmulgee.

The white sign with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Seal sits just off the highway giving the address and phone numbers while letting people know 'The Tax Commission is here.'

For several years people have been told to "Go south and kind of across from Wal-Mart in the strip mall, behind Car Mart, and between Cricket and Sears."

Jamie Golightly, Sr. Revenue Agent said, "We got so tired of telling the Creek citizens, 'Between Cricket and Sears.'"

Linette Factor, Revenue Agent said, "It was almost embarrassing."

This summer the entire Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission staff of Jo Coleman, Jennifer Langley, Cindi Fletcher and Sheri Newport, along with Golightly and Factor, teamed with new Tax Commissioner Jerry McPeak to get signs in place.

The early bids seemed just too expensive. Then there was the problem of style and information on the signs. "Jennifer pretty well wrangled the sign deal," said McPeak, "She got the bids and initiated the work on sign style and wording."

The neatest sign is probably the one over the office. The staff gets compliments about the originality of that particular sign. "We were all brainstorming one day and Cindi, came up with the idea of making the sign look like a Creek Nation personalized tag. We all thought that was a neat idea so began our search for someone to make it."

"Cindi's idea looks great above the office and now folks can say, 'Just go to the Creek Nation sign on the highway and look for the big Creek auto tag above the office.'"

The Tax Commission sends out a huge thanks to the Facilities and Housing divisions of Creek Nation for their help in getting the signs in place.

Cemetery services available through Cultural Preservation

Eulala Pegram
MCN Library Volunteer

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation Office has programs available including cemetery maintenance and locating plots.

Applications for family cemeteries on Creek allotment land that need cleaning and or preservation attention, as well as cemetery documentation, may be filled out through the Cultural Preservation Office in the Human Development Building at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

This program involves locating, documenting, cleaning and photographing cemetery plots on individual allotment land. There are currently two crews of four men to do the cleaning and it will involve others to do the documentation, so there will probably be a waiting list.

For more information, contact Charles Kelly at (918) 732-7748, or email him at cemcrew@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Other possible family history help provided by the tribe includes family genealogy information (Rose Johnson in the library), information on the Final Creek Roll books in the library and a website with Creek obituary information from Muscogee Nation News from 1976, 1980-2004, searchable by date and name. It is located at http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~okbits/musnation.ht

Twenty years after Claude Cox; How has the tribe changed?

Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications Manager

OKMULGEE — Since 1991, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has changed, to say the least. This number is significant because it was the last year that Claude Cox served as Principal Chief. Cox was the first leader of the modern era when the Nation was able to fully embrace and represent their sovereignty.

What did Cox accomplish as Principal Chief? How did his policies affect the tribe today? What if a few decisions made during that pivotal and historic time had been made differently? How would these factors have affected the tribe, then and now?

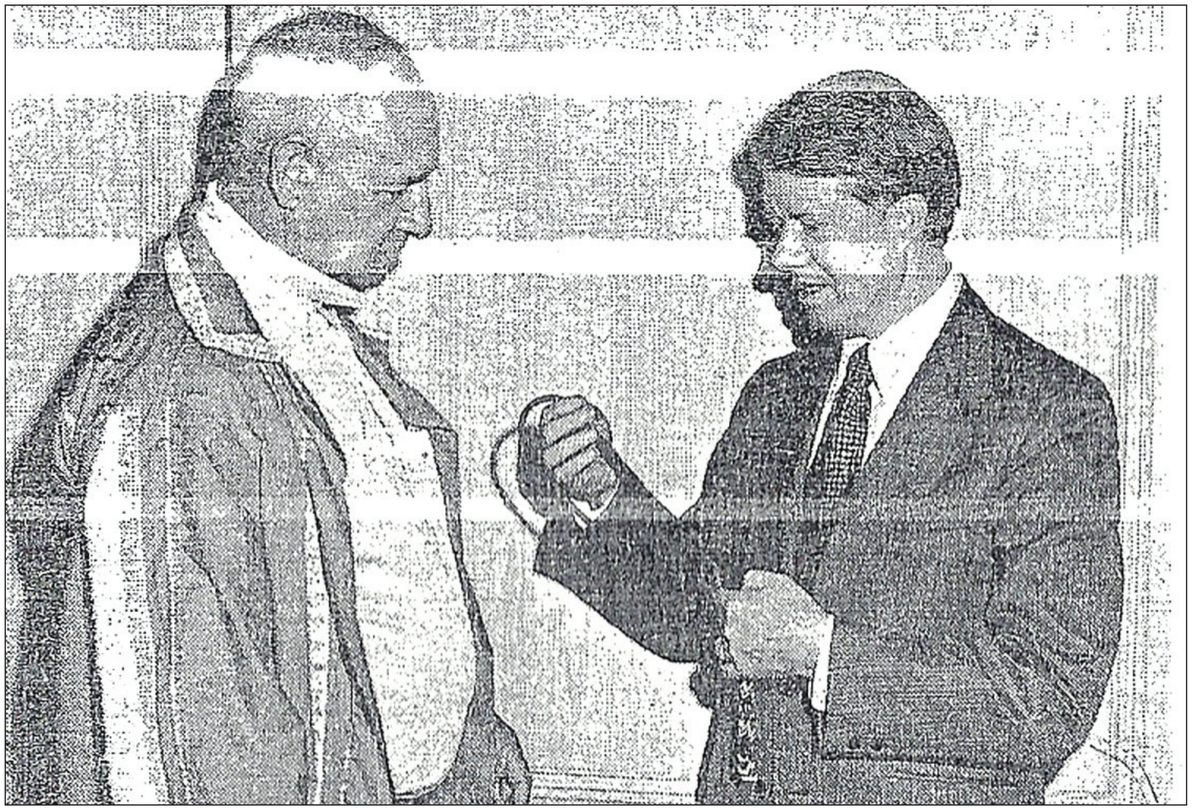
Tribal sovereignty was given back to the tribe in 1970 and the foundation in the beginning was tested quickly as candidates filed for the opportunity to represent their people in a democratic manner as a leader elected by a vote of the people, something that had not been seen since a century before.

Of the candidates that filed, Claude Cox and Allen Harjo ended up in a run-off for the office of Principal Chief. These two hopefuls not only wanted the honor of being leader, but also to bring the right 'philosophy' to the nation. Each had their own philosophy he felt would bring the tribe into modernism and each was different.

Cox might have been seen as 'progressive,' even a maverick to some, guiding with a heavy hand, while Allen was thought to be a leader who would install many of the policies of the tribal constitution of 1867.

To many, Cox was a seen as a dictator and would demand policies and guidelines to be interpreted from his own viewpoint. To many, Harjo saw the authority being more widely distributed to the tribal towns, which may have been seen by some as reminiscent of the older system. This would work as a council in dealing with tribal matters with a principal chief.

History would give Cox the victory and the present system of Creek tribal government slowly began to take shape, but not without a shaky foundation. Cox saw his need to govern solely and immediately as the only way the tribe could function immediately, while Harjo saw the autonomy of the old system being questioned.



MNN/*Archives*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Claude Cox is pictured above with then U.S. President-elect Jimmy Carter presenting a beaded medallion on behalf of the nation in 1976.

Buddy Cox, nephew of Claude Cox remembers how his uncle began his first term as leader of the Muscogee (Creeks).

"There were lots of things that were going on and happening in Indian affairs at the time," says Buddy when talking of that late 60s and early 70s era.

In Okla., the Creek, Seminole, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Cherokee were recently given the right to elect their leaders around this time by conducting open elections, whereas before 1906, the federal government would 'hand-pick' the leader. Although tribes had the right to hold elections, they didn't have to and could still go by the selected leaders, which were usually controlled by the local Bureau of Indian Affairs office (BIA).

"Dode, (McIntosh) had been the political appointee up to this point," Buddy said, "now when the tribe (Creek) is considering holding an election, Claude is on the advisory board about how the tribe should conduct this by the BIA, at this time the leadership is even offered to Claude but he turns it down because he knew their should be an election to determine the leader."

Cox became so involved with the forming of the modern tribe, he took an early retirement, at the age of 51, as a lineman with Public Service of Oklahoma. Many questioned the educational background of Cox in relationship to leading one of the bigger tribes in the United States, but what Cox may have lacked in scholarly achievements, he made up for with sheer stubbornness. Robert Trepp, who served under the Cox administration, remembers the determination of the past leader to not only get things done, but to try to be the first tribe that did. "He [Cox] was heavy-handed," said Trepp, "but he thought he was making decisions that were best for the tribe, he knew the tribe didn't have a lot of funds for construction, . . . I mean the tribe was still being led out of his house that he used for an office!"

Trepp said Cox would look at the right options to achieve his goals, "He helped get grants that helped build the Mound Building."

Trepp also pointed out the creation of the dairy built near Hanna, "Claude also saw the need for the tribe to have commodity distribution. The Creek Nation was the only program fighting for it in the state."

Cox also began to look at land acquisition for the tribe. One of the top priorities at that time was the Land-Mackey sandbar, located in South Tulsa, which would be the future home of the River Spirit Casino.

According to staff members then, Cox was known to be very focused, stubborn, and would not back down from what he felt was right for the tribe, or his philosophy. Concerning the choice property in South Tulsa, Buddy recalls one incident that showed Cox's stern protection of tribal property of land in trust. Famous Evangelist Oral Roberts was interested in buying the choice property in South Tulsa, perhaps to connect with his created college campus, ORU.

"Oral Roberts wanted to buy that property," recalls Buddy when talking about the Land-Mackey Sandbar, "He [Roberts] wanted to purchase it for only $100 an acre," Buddy laughs, "Claude promptly showed him the way out."

Cox's approach may have been direct and his tactics were sometimes questioned, but how much did his philosophy really differ in comparison to Allen Harjo's?

SEE COX - A6

Bribe

Continued from A1

Lee was convicted of bribery for accepting the total of $14,100 from Benham on three separate occasions around January 2009, according to court records.

The two are to appear in the MCN District Court Friday, Dec. 16, 2011 for a sentencing hearing.

After deliberating for two hours, the jury recommended a minimum sentencing of 30 days in jail and a fine of $5,000 for each count.

“We think they took it serious and we treat these as serious crimes,” Rod Wiemer, special prosecutor for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, said after the jury had reached a verdict.

“I can’t believe that a verdict was reached with the lack of evidence of a crime being committed that existed in this case,”

Greg Meier, the defendants’ attorney, said after the jury had reached its verdict.

In February 2009, Johnson was allegedly given an envelope and instructed to deliver it to Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, according to testimony.

The envelope contained $3,650 to be given to Ellis from Benham and Briggs Tobacco Co., according to Ellis’ testimony.

Johnson testified she did not know what was inside the envelope but was told Ellis would be expecting the envelope.

According to Ellis’ testimony, after meeting with Johnson, Ellis discovered an envelope on his conference table and investigated its contents. Inside, he found cash inside.

Ellis immediately called the Lighthorse Police Chief and several members of his cabinet to count the money. They counted 36 one hundred dollar bills and one fifty dollar bill; a total of $3,650. The money was later taken and put into a safe in the controller’s office, Ellis continued.

In the course of the investigation by the Lighthorse Police, it was discovered Benham and Wesley were working with the FBI, according to Lighthorse Deputy Chief Brian Cummings’ testimony.

“I really think it’s pretty lousy what the FBI done to these people,” Ellis said on Friday, following the trial.

“Why pick on employees that’s got families, kids in schools, cause them to get felonies, jail time?”

Ellis testified in court that he had known Johnson for 17 years. Johnson was first appointed as the MCN Tax Commissioner in 2000, under Principal Chief Perry Beaver. During Ellis’ terms of office as Principal Chief, he reappointed her twice.

“I think it’s a bad case when the federal government does that. It makes me mad,” Ellis continued. “I feel just like the people that got convicted.”

A third person, Ed Warrington, is charged with accepting a bribe from Benham and Briggs Tobacco Co., according to court records.

Warrington is expected to enter a plea, rather than go to trial, Special Prosecutor Ron Weimer said. Warrington testified in the MCN District Court against Johnson and Lee.

Warrington was with Lee when the two met with Randy Benham and received a total of $7,600, according to court records.

“It looked like they were trying to bring the whole nation down,” Ellis said. “If I had took the money, they would have had me.”

Cox

Continued from A5

When interviewed, Trepp was asked about his speculation on Harjo and his possible decisions if he has been elected chief.

“Had Allen had won,” said Trepp “We probably would have had the House of Warriors and the House of Kings, but it would have taken a lot of work to do, it would have been large and cumbersome.”

Cox knew that the Nation needed representation of some type in a legislative manner, but the former leader did have his reservations of how the council should be constructed and how it would operate.

“There was an uproar of even having a National Council,” says Trepp, “You see, Claude never wanted more than eight [representatives] . . . he took a lot of control, the council was to be an advisory that he picked,” explains Trepp.

He recalls one incident when the former chief commented on the daily grind that he had to face when dealing with another noted organization, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Trepp saw Claude walking out of his office one day and could tell he was perturbed about something, “The BIA! They’re like a bunch of chickens,” Trepp recalls the historic leader saying “They wake up in a brand new world each morning!”

Cox was sometimes called ‘The Czar,’ and his often-brazen attitude did not sit well with many citizens. Cox’s reaction to the masses’ outcries did not always alter his plan.

In 1985, a petition was created to call for the ousting of Cox. When he received the news, Cox was not in his office but plowing his field near the Slick / Gypsy area, and according to the aid, kept plowing.

“You always have opponents, and I say that opposition makes you stronger - if you know how to use them,” said the chief to the *Muskogee Phoenix* at the time.

Cox also had his disagreements with the other branches of government as well, according to Bill Kumpe, Okmulgee Daily Times reporter in the 1980s.

“Cox saw the administrative problems the tribe faced as nothing different that the U.S. government was facing. Cox sees the current crisis atmosphere within the Creek Nation as a function of both the evolutionary process that the tribe is going through and poor communication between the branches of the government and the tribe.”

Cox passed away Dec. 11, 1997, his body laid-in-state Dec. 12 and a funeral service was held Dec. 13 at Newtown Indian Methodist Church.

Cox served five four-year terms, making him the longest consecutive principal chief in the modern era. Since then, legislation has been passed that only allows a Creek leader to hold the office for two four-year terms. Cox’s last full year of service in this capacity was 1991, twenty years ago.

When speaking to Buddy, present Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby said, “Your Uncle Claude never got the credit he deserved for all the battles he fought for all tribes.”

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- **Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.**
- **Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within five years of application.**
- **Live within the State of Oklahoma.**
- **Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.**
- **Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.**
- **Be 18 years or older.**
- **Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.**
- **Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.**
- **Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.**

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

Gates Millennium Scholarship due Jan. 11, 2012

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

FAIRFAX, Va. — High school students interested in applying for the Gates Millennium Scholarship program have until Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

The Gates Millennium Scholarship will be awarded to 1,000 students for use at any accredited college or university they choose.

Eligible applicants must be African American, American Indian/ Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American. Applicants must have attained a cumulative high school GPA of a 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted) or have earned a GED diploma and be Pell Grant eligible, according to the GMS website. Scholarships are only available to students enrolling for the first time at an accredited US college or university, as a degree-seeking student.

Students who classify themselves as American Indian or Alaska Native will be asked to provide proof of tribal enrollment or a certificate from a state or federally recognized tribe.

For more information, check out the GMS website at gmsp.org

Nichols Heritage scholarship deadline set for March 2, 2012

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY — Graduating Oklahoma high school seniors may be eligible to apply for the 2012 John W. and Mary D. Nichols Oklahoma Heritage Scholarship.

The $10,000 scholarship is dispersed to the winning student over four years and is based on the student's demonstrated knowledge and appreciation of Oklahoma history and geography, overall academic achievement, citizenship and leadership. Students must be committed to attending an Oklahoma college or university.

The scholarship is made by possible in conjunction with the Oklahoma Heritage Association and Gaylord-Pickens Museum.

One student is selected to receive this scholarship annually.

Students are not restricted in the major of courses of study and the scholarship may be used at any institution of higher education in Okla., according to the terms, eligibility and rules of the scholarship.

Nominations for the scholarship can come from a teacher, administrator, or any other responsible adult not related to the student.

Additional material is needed for this scholarship including copies of the student's ACT/SAT scores, high school transcript beginning at the ninth grade and a letter from the student detailing: the college/university the student plans to attend, major or general field of study and plans following college.

The deadline for this scholarship is March 2, 2012.

For more information, please contact Gina Moore Campbell at (405) 523-3202 or gmc@oklahomaheritage.com

Tulsa Indian Community hosts youth stickball clinic

MCN/*Museum and Cultural Center*

Thirty-three Muscogee (Creek) boys and girls participated in Tulsa Indian Community's free lacrosse / stickball clinic held Nov. 12, 2011 where youth learned about the connection stickball has to the modern sport of lacrosse.

Media Release
MCN Museum and Cultural Center

TULSA — On Nov. 12, 2011 the Tulsa Creek Indian Community hosted a free lacrosse and stickball clinic for Muscogee youth.

Coordinated by Justin Bruce Giles and Pete Coser, Jr., the clinic was designed to introduce Muscogee youth to the sport of lacrosse through Muscogean stickball culture.

Giles and Coser are Muscogee citizens who play lacrosse and are well-versed in the game's history. They felt Muscogee youth could benefit from the cultural learning and physical activity presented in the clinic.

Giles works as the Assistant Director for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum and Cultural Center and Coser works as the Program Manager at Washington University in St. Louis Buder Center for American Indian Studies.

Thirty-three boys and girls, ages eight to 14, participated in the clinic while many of their parents watched the activity. After an opening prayer and a brief history of Muscogee stickball from Dr. Pete Coser, the kids had the opportunity to play a social stickball game.

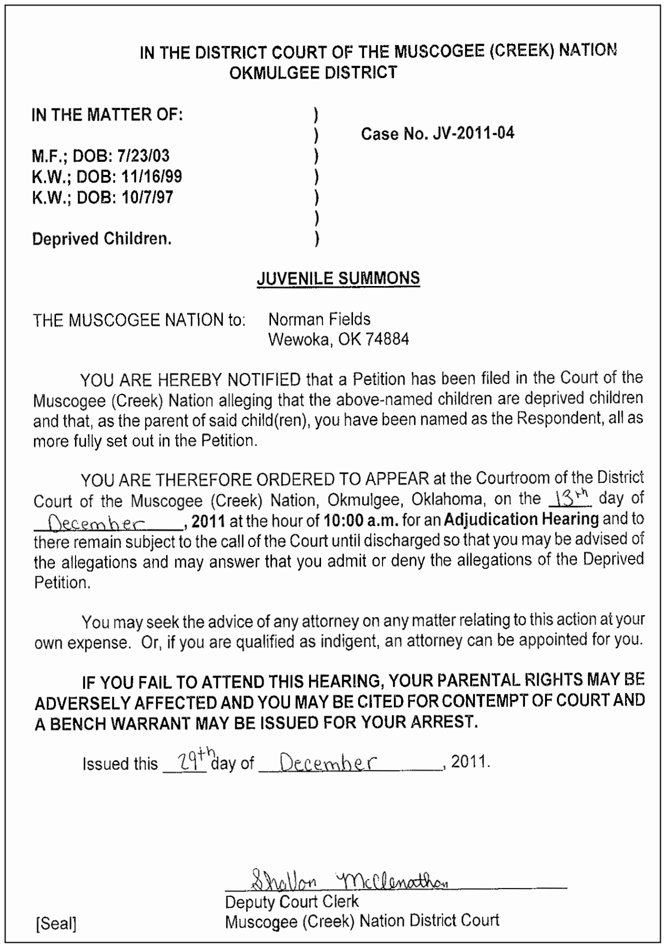
This activity taught the children more about the relation stickball has to lacrosse and the Haudenosaunee, or Iroquois, the originators of lacrosse. The rest of the evening was spent practicing the fundamentals of lacrosse from picking up the ball to catching and throwing.

Lacrosse is a rapidly growing sport and is no longer a game played mainly on the east coast. Youth, high school and college programs can now be found across the country from Ohio, Colo., Nev., Calif., Fla., Texas, and Okla.

Lacrosse is taking hold locally in Tulsa, prompting the clinic coordinators to build on the budding popularity of the sport within Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The youth who attended the clinic connected with playing another Native American sport.

Many parents saw the potential for their young athletes to pick up lacrosse as a spring sport that combines aspects of football, basketball, and soccer.

For more information on lacrosse please visit: http://iroquoisnationals.org/ or http://tulsalacrosse.com/



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:

M.F.; DOB: 7/23/03
K.W.; DOB: 11/16/99
K.W.; DOB: 10/7/97

Deprived Children.

Case No. JV-2011-04

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Norman Fields
Wewoka, OK 74884

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named children are deprived children and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 13th day of December, **2011** at the hour of **10:00 a.m.** for an **Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

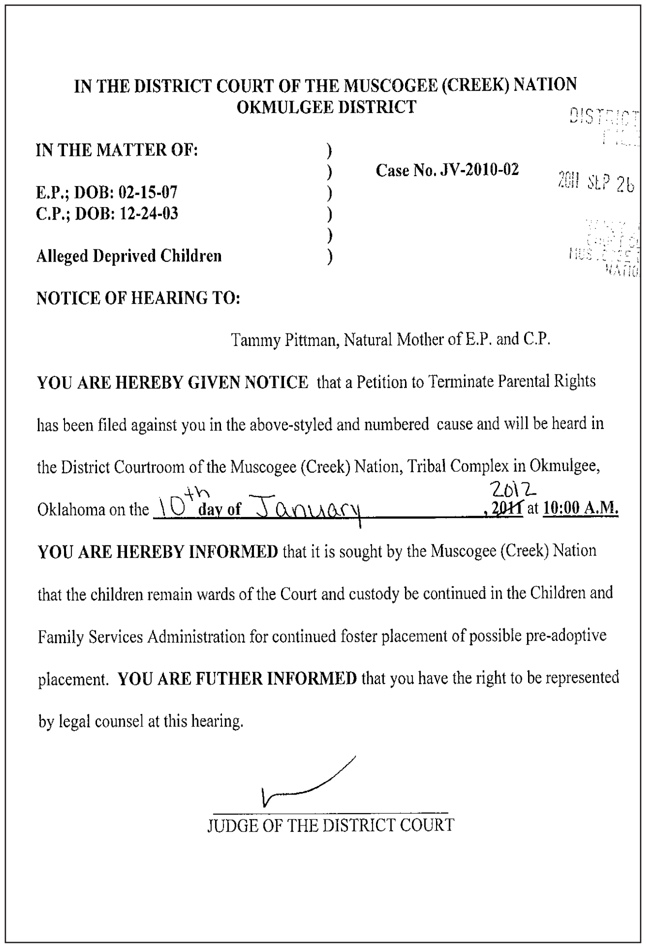
You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 29th day of December, 2011.

Shallon McClenathan
Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

[Seal]



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

2011 SEP 26

IN THE MATTER OF:

E.P.; DOB: 02-15-07
C.P.; DOB: 12-24-03

Alleged Deprived Children

Case No. JV-2010-02

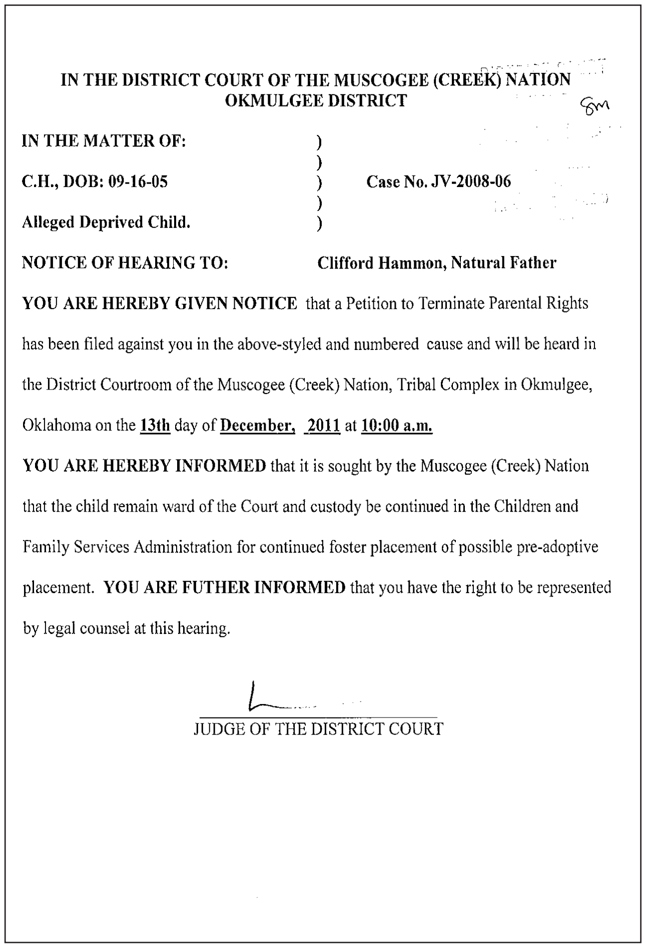
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tammy Pittman, Natural Mother of E.P. and C.P.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10th **day of** January **, ~~2011~~** 2012 at **10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Sm

IN THE MATTER OF:

C.H., DOB: 09-16-05

Alleged Deprived Child.

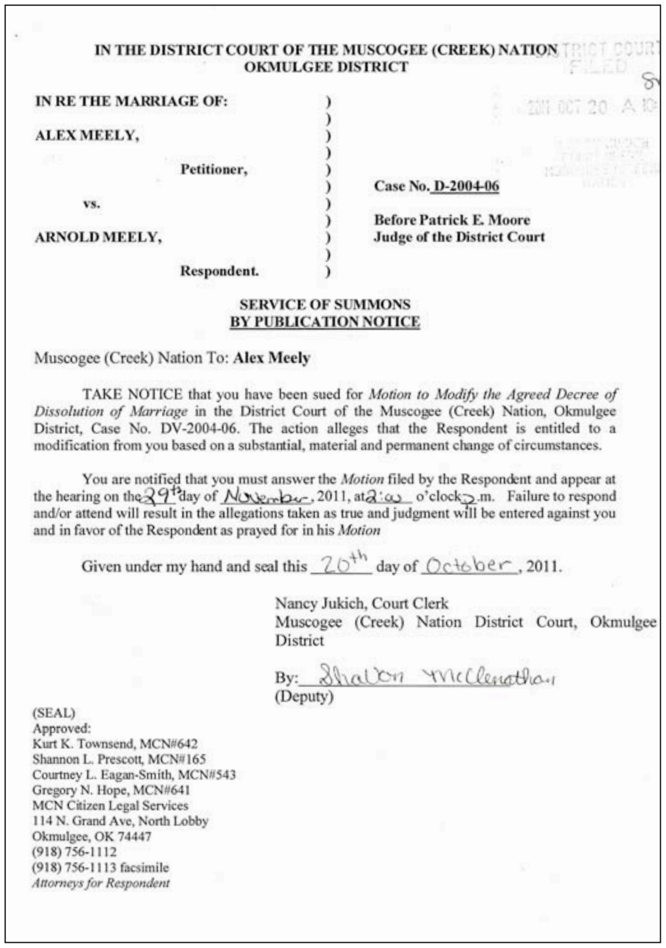
Case No. JV-2008-06

NOTICE OF HEARING TO: **Clifford Hammon, Natural Father**

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **13th** day of **December, 2011** at **10:00 a.m.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2011 OCT 20 A 10

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:

ALEX MEELY,
Petitioner,

vs.

ARNOLD MEELY,
Respondent.

Case No. D-2004-06

Before Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: **Alex Meely**

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for *Motion to Modify the Agreed Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2004-06. The action alleges that the Respondent is entitled to a modification from you based on a substantial, material and permanent change of circumstances.

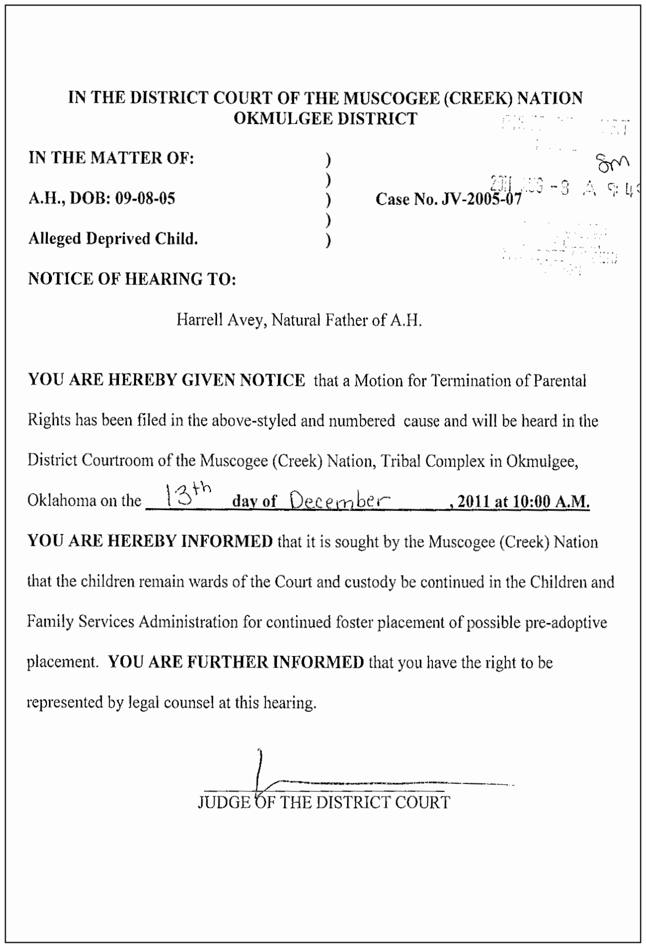
You are notified that you must answer the *Motion* filed by the Respondent and appear at the hearing on the 29th day of November, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of the Respondent as prayed for in his *Motion*

Given under my hand and seal this 20th day of October, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Shallon McClenathan
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Approved:
Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Respondent



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Sm

IN THE MATTER OF:

A.H., DOB: 09-08-05

Alleged Deprived Child.

Case No. JV-2005-07

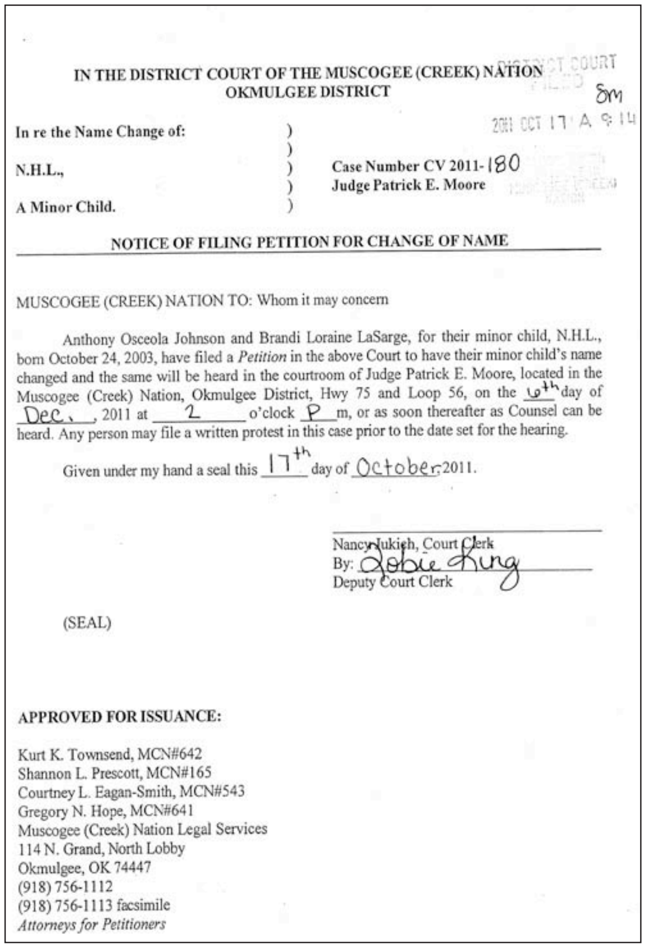
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Harrell Avey, Natural Father of A.H.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion for Termination of Parental Rights has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 13th **day of** December **, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
Sm
2011 OCT 17 A 9:14

In re the Name Change of:

N.H.L.,

A Minor Child.

Case Number CV 2011- 180
Judge Patrick E. Moore

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Anthony Osceola Johnson and Brandi Loraine LaSarge, for their minor child, N.H.L., born October 24, 2003, have filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have their minor child's name changed and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Hwy 75 and Loop 56, on the 6th day of Dec., 2011 at 2 o'clock P m, or as soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 17th day of October, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Lobie King
Deputy Court Clerk

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 N. Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioners

SECTION B

FEATURES

Nov./Dec. 2011 edition

Giving 'mvto'

• National Council helps 96 Muscogee families

MCN National Council/*Whitney Mayhew*

Muscogee (Creek) National Council members and staff hosted the fourth annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and assisted 96 Muscogee (Creek) families with food baskets during the holiday season.

Media Release
MCN National Council

OKMULGEE — On Friday, Nov. 18, 2011 the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and staff packed Thanksgiving food baskets and delivered to those less fortunate for the fourth annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.

The Thanksgiving Food Drive helped 96 Muscogee (Creek) families.

The first Thanksgiving Food Drive in 2008 was initiated after the National Council saw a need after citizens called the office sharing stories of layoffs, unemployment and general tough economic times. The first year, 12 families were given food baskets.

The National Council and staff donated individually and raised funds through others that supported the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees, entities and departments also gave to make this year successful.

The National Council would like to thank those who gave and worked to make this a good Thanksgiving for our Muscogee (Creek) families. We look forward to the fifth annual Thanksgiving Food Drive next year.

For more information, please contact the Office of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council at (918) 758-1410 or visit www.mcnnc.com under "Council News" to view additional pictures taken during the Thanksgiving Drive.

Creek Nation Casino - Checotah supports local Toys for Tots

Media Release
Creek Nation Casino - Checotah

CHECOTAH — Creek Nation Casino-Checotah is participating in the McIntosh County Toys for Tots Program this year. The casino would like to help provide gifts for needy children in the McIntosh County area this holiday.

Creek Nation Casino-Checotah is offering players a holiday bonus for those who think of others this season through Wednesday, Dec. 7.

For each new unopened, unwrapped toy donated during this promotion, Creek Nation Casino-Checotah guests will receive $10 in free play. To participate, guests are asked to bring their toy contributions to the players club. One free play per customer, per day.

"We are proud to partner with the McIntosh County Toys for Tots Program and support the noble work they do for our local community," said Jason Larney, General Manager of the Creek Nation Casino-Checotah. Donations will be distributed by the McIntosh County Toys for Tots Program to the area's most in-need families.

For more information contact the McIntosh County Department of Human Services at (918) 689-7732.

Sapulpa Indian Community to elect officers Dec. 5

Media Release
Sapulpa Creek Indian Community

SAPULPA — Sapulpa Creek Indian Community will hold officer elections during the month of Dec.

Members of the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community interested in filing for candidacy in an elected office may be subject to a Background Check and drug testing with the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community.

Registered members are also encouraged to update their contact information with the community at this time.

Officer elections will be held Monday, Dec. 5, 2011.

For more information contact Wanda Weaver at (918) 645-7772 or the Sapulpa Indian Community Center at (918) 227-9627.

B2 AD

Muskogee Casino

WIN A GMC SIERRA TRUCK
Santas SPECIALS
ICE BALL

B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Christmas Auction

B4 SPOTLIGHT

Muscogee (Creek) Nation hosts annual 'GIS Day'

B5 ART

"A Song of Winter" to perform at Tulsa PAC

B7 PEOPLE

Awards: Chad McKinney

Santas
SPECIALS
December 23rd, 2011

WIN A GMC
SIERRA TRUCK
CREEK NATION
Casino
MUSCOGEE
New Years Eve
ICE BALL

Santa's Diamond Club Special 4PM - 10PM
$10 match play from 4:00PM - 10:00PM. There will be 5-$100 free play drawings every ½ hour from 5:00PM - 9:00PM. There will also be $500 cash prize drawings at 5:30PM, 6:00PM, 6:30PM, 7:00PM, and 7:30PM, $1,000 cash drawings at 8:00PM and 8:30PM, and a grand prize $5,000 cash prize drawing at 9:00PM. Players at both the Travel Plaza and Main Casino are eligible.

Santa's Bingo Special
$10 pays $500. Mini Games pay DOUBLE! Every single winner on a regular and special game winner will pick a stocking for bingo free play. Win up to $500 in bingo free play.

Santa's Blackjack Drawings 1PM - Midnight
$250 drawing every hour. Any player with a Hearts or Diamonds flush on 3CP or UTH or a Hearts or Diamonds blackjack will receive a drawing ticket.

Santa's $5,000 Poker Tournament 12:30PM $30 Buy-in
rebuys available first 30 minutes. $10 add-on (optional)

Santa's High Hand Poker Special 4PM - Midnight
Every hour the player with highest hand wins $250 and all other players at table split $250.

New Years Eve Celebration 1PM - 11:30PM
$10 match play from 1PM - 11:30PM. Diamond Club members will earn 1 electroni
drawing ticket with every $50 of coin in. There will be 5-$100 free play drawings a
1-$500 cash prize electronic ticket drawing every ½ hour from 1:30PM - 11:30PM.
11:30PM, we will have 4 - $2, 011 cash prizes and 1-GMC Truck electronic ticket drawings. Players at both the Travel Plaza and Main Casino are eligible.

NYE Blackjack Drawings 1PM - Midnight
$500 drawing every hour. Any player with a Spades or Clubs flush on 3CP or UTH
Spades or Clubs blackjack will receive a drawing ticket.

NYE $5,000 Poker Tournament 12:30PM $30 Buy-in
rebuys available first 30 minutes. $10 add-on (optional)

NYE Hot Seat Poker Drawing 4PM - Midnight
Every hour we will award 2 - $250 hot seat prizes in the poker room.

NYE Bingo DOUBLE SESSION
$25 pays $1,199. Mini Games pay $100! Bonus Line, Do-It-Yourself, and Bonanz
pay $1,000.

NYE Nite Owl Bingo Session 10:30PM
$20 - 20 games payouts range from $200 - $2,012.

CREEK NATION
Casino
MUSCOGEE

3420 W. PEAK BLVD. MUSKOGEE OK 74401
918.683.1825 creeknationcasino.net
Look for us on facebook and twitter under 'LUCK STRIKES HERE'

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Reintegration Program Coat Drive

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program is hosting their first annual coat drive and still taking donations of new or gently used coats. Donations can be dropped off at the MCN Reintegration program or arrangements can be made to have them picked up.

For more information, please contact Becky Bilingsly at (800) 259-1059 or (918) 652-2676.

MCN complex closing for holiday season

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal complex offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 26 - 27 in recognition of the holiday season.

Benefit Stomp Dance

OKMULGEE — A Benefit Stomp Dance and Toy & Coat drive will be held Saturday, Dec. 10 from 6-10 p.m., at the Multi-Purpose Building at the MCN Claude Cox Omniplex.

Toys and new or gently used coats of all sizes will be collected and donated to MCN Children and Family Services for distribution to children that are part of the MCN CFS Angel Tree.

CFS accepts donations and angels are available. This event is hosted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Citizenship in conjunction with MCN Tourism & Recreation.

Drawings will be held for door prizes. Bring a toy and/or new or gently used coat to enter drawings. Prizes include:

- Cedar Flute
- Concert Tickets to Lady Antebellum w/special guests Darius Rucker & Thompson Square
- His & Hers Beaded Watches
- More TBA

For more information, contact Nathan Wilson at (918) 732-7947 or Allan Colbert Jr., at (918) 732-7753

Grocery Bingo

TWIN HILLS — Twin Hills Indian Community Senior citizens will be hosting a grocery bingo Jan. 6, 2012, beginning at 7 p.m. There will be concession available.

The price will be $10 for 10 games, specials will also be available.

The Twin Hills Community center is located at the intersections of Highways 16 and 52.

For more information, contact Mark Pendergrass at (918) 732-7985.

Native American Christmas Market

SAPULPA — A Native American Christmas Market will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, from 12-4 p.m. , in Sapulpa.

Market will include authentic handmade Native American items for sale: artwork, crafts, baby items, ornaments, T-shirts, decorative drums, clothing, jewelry, prints, CDS.

Raffle drawings for one Pendleton blanket and one Pendleton towel set are $5 for three tickets will be held at 3 p.m. Winner will be notified if not present.

A Native American food concession will also be available. The event will be held at the Sapulpa Elks Lodge #118, located at 24 S. Poplar (behind Sooner Tire).

For more information, call (918) 402-8288.

Citizenship Remote rescheduled

WETUMKA — The Wetumka remote scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2011 has been rescheduled to 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2011.

Christmas Auction

NORMAN — A Christmas Auction will have pre-decorated Christmas trees, crafts, gifts and more available for auction, Dec. 11, from 3-6 p.m., in the Warrior Room at the Thunderbird Casino, located at 15700 E. State Highway 9, in Norman, Okla.

For questions, please contact Carolyn (405) 990-9929 or Krystal (918) 402-8288.

Christmas Arts & Crafts Sale

TULSA — The Tulsa Creek Community Center is hosting its annual Christmas Arts and Crafts Sale, Friday Dec. 2, 9 a.m., to 6 p.m.

The event will feature original artwork, paintings, pottery, beadwork, silver jewelry, shawls, glassware, blankets, hand cut frames and mattes, moccasins, T-shirts, Christmas ornaments and stockings plus more.

There will be a 50/50 pot, door prizes and concessions. Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center at 8611 S. Union Ave., in Tulsa.

Southeastern Perspective exhibit at Gilcrease

TULSA — The Gilcrease Museum will feature works from southeastern artists such as Muscogee potter Mike Daniel, painter Jon Mark Tiger, sculpter Eddie Morrison and jeweler Charley Johnson.

The exhibit will be open Dec. 9-11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Gilcrease Museum located at 1400 Gilcrease Museum Rd., in Tulsa.

For more information, call (918) 596-2700 or visit the website at: gilcrease.utulsa.edu

MCN Southern Regional Office December Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
-Reintegration (appointment only) **-Food Distribution open daily** **-Housing here daily 8am-5pm** **-Employment & Training here daily 8am-5pm**				**1** Social Services@FD 9am-11am	**2**	**3**
4	**5**	**6** Tax Commission 9am-3pm	**7** National Council 9am-4pm Legal Services (appointment only)	**8**	**9** WIC@Clinic 9am-4pm	**10**
11	**12**	**13** Tax Commission 9am-3pm	**14** National Council 9am-4pm Citizenship 10am-3pm	**15**	**16**	**17**
18	**19**	**20** Tax Commission 9am-3pm	**21** National Council 9am-4pm Legal Services 9am-3pm	**22**	**23** WIC@Clinic 9am-4pm	**24**
25	**26** **Closed for Holidays**	**27**	**28** National Council 9am-4pm	**29**	**30**	**31**

Technology aids Muscogee (Creek) Nation in planning through annual ‘GIS Day’

Gary Fife
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — How can you quickly analyze population and land characteristics in a certain place in order to determine whether or not it is suitable for a school, police station or a health clinic?

By using a system called Geographical Information Systems or ‘GIS,’ according to Frank Harjo, GIS Coordinator, for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. “It’s a software tool that allows us to see information in geographic patterns. Looking at the patterns we can make better decisions with that information. It’s not specific to one program. We can get information from health to education to emergency management to all the different programs that we have in Creek Nation and utilize this information to make better decisions on the resources and make them more efficient in what we do in the tribal government.”

Wikipedia defines GIS this way: “a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of geographically referenced data. In the simplest terms, GIS is the merging of cartography, statistical analysis, and database technology. In a general sense, the term describes any that integrates, stores, edits, analyzes, shares and displays geographic information for informing decision making.”

“It can be useful,” Harjo said, “in combining information to see what needs to be done in a location and the best resources to use in that place. It’s designed to look at some patterns that may be beneficial to allow us to plan where we might have resources in the future. It could be to benefit the youngsters that we have data for and serve areas that were under served. Now that we have this information, we can better utilize that information to determine where we should be putting a Headstart, where we should put facilities and all different types of tribal government. For example, if the Nation were deciding on where to put a school,” Harjo explains, “GIS could help make the decision easier, the information that we could gather could be from the State Department of Education and from that, we can look and see total enrollments of children within the MCN jurisdictional boundaries. With that information we can decipher approximately how many tribal citizens are within that school district based on what we generate based on our own programs within Creek Nation.”

“Also we can look at population trends. We can look at past data as well and see where areas are growing faster than others. We can use this information to our advantage for the short-term and the long-term as well.”

MNN/*Gary Fife*

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation ‘GIS Day’ was held at the Claude Cox Omniplex Dome Nov. 16, 2011. GIS data influences a variety of things such as how resources are managed, how healthy the environment is, and the general health of a local population.

The GIS information could be of great help to a department like the Lighthorse in determining whether or not they have legal jurisdiction in an area, “One of the things that Lighthorse has problems with is not knowing where the trust lands are when they come into different counties’ jurisdictions. Also, they cross-jurisdiction compacts they have with other municipalities. What we would like to do eventually, is have that information available, so they could download that in their vehicles and have that information whenever they travel along the jurisdiction. The GIS data would assist the Lighthorse in determining where their patrol cars would be best assigned by showing crime patterns and related data. By having these locations and people mapped out in the GIS system, it would help in actually finding some of the rural addresses and citizens who live in those areas.

The GIS system can actually find and provide data on places such as the MCN tribal complex, or the Okmulgee health clinic. In addition to just finding it on a map, the data bank could share items such as when the building was last inspected, maintenance records, insurance and contact information for those facilities.

Some information would stay within the tribal government and some would be released to the general public. Security and privacy concerns for something like a tribal stomp dance ground would prevent that from becoming general knowledge to protect that site from unwelcome visitors. Those determinations are yet to be made and would have to come from the tribal government, he notes.

GIS Day was held Nov. 16 at the Claude Cox Omniplex Dome. Several tribes were represented with maps of their tribal areas. Oklahoma State University staff were also in attendance with their displays.

GIS data influences a variety of things such as how resources are managed, how healthy the environment is, and the general health of a local population. By looking at the patterns of how that data is linked, Harjo said, the information can help solve some of those issues.

“I know we live in a world today where funding is not plentiful, where we can waste resources, but we try to make the most of what we do have and I think GIS is an excellent tool that will allow us to do some of those things.”

Change a life.
Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent

Children. Keepers of our tradition.

NICWA
National Indian Child Welfare Association
Protecting our children • Preserving our culture

Preserve our heritage, become a foster/adoption parent today.
In the State of Oklahoma, there are Muscogee Creek Children in state and tribal custody looking for a place to call “cuko” (home).
Become a Foster/Adoptive tribal homes.

For more information contact: Tammi Reed-Barnett
at (918)732-7883 OR email: tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

‘A Song of Winter’ set for Dec. 2-3 at Tulsa Performing Arts Center

Eulala Pegram
MCN Library Volunteer

OKMULGEE — One of the great things about living in Oklahoma is the variety of Native cultural experiences seemingly everywhere.

For some time, I have been extremely impressed with the American Indian Theatre Company, an all-Native theatre group, and Mahenwahdose Productions, a company producing Muscogee language plays, but this is the first year I have been in the state and able to attend one of their production collaborations.

The annual “A Song of Winter” is a Native comedy parodying Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol.” The production features Will Hill, who wrote the play, along with Jehnean Washington and a cast of Oklahoma Native Americans.

Instead of the London setting, place and people are replaced with Okla., skies, pastures, pick-ups, smoke shops, Indian people.

Grumpy Eb Screechowl is scarred by his experiences of being left at boarding school during Christmas holidays, year after year. As a comedy, the play speaks volumes about the Native perspective of things related to the original play.

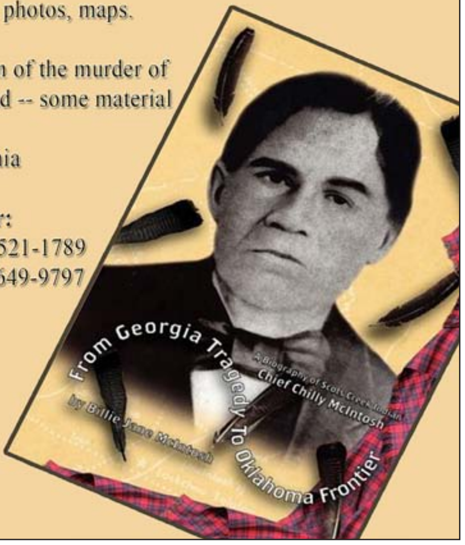
This is the company’s seventh year to mount this popular play and each year people have reportedly start calling in Aug., to see if it will play again in Dec.

The adapted play was written by Will Hill (Kabitcha Feke Sego), full blood Muscogee, and it has plenty of cultural touches that will be familiar to Native people, like Christmas carols sung in native languages, plus a song called “An Ode to Commodity Cheese.” Needless to say, I will be in the audience with friends this year laughing, watching and enjoying the transformation of Ed Screechowl.

“A Song of Winter” will show at 8 p.m., Dec. 2-3 at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center Charles E. Norman Theater.

For more information on Native theatre and performances in the state, see the December 2010 archived issue of *Oklahoma Native Times* where you can read about just a few of Oklahoma Native performing artists: theater, magic, opera, music, and storytelling.

For more information or tickets, contact the Tulsa PAC ticket office at (918) 596-7111.


From Georgia Tragedy To Oklahoma Frontier
A Biography of Scots Creek Indian
Chief Chilly McIntosh
by Billie Jane McIntosh

FROM GEORGIA TRAGEDY TO OKLAHOMA FRONTIER
A Biography of Scots Creek Indian Chief Chilly McIntosh
by Billie Jane McIntosh
also Author of Ah-Ko-kee, American Sovereign, now out of print

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“ best overview and description of the murder of William McIntosh, Jr,. I’ve read -- some material not seen before--”
Dr. Gary L. McIntosh, California

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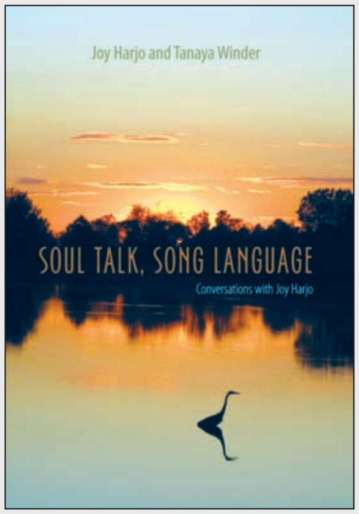
Harjo and Winder release ‘Soul Talk, Song Language’

Media Release
Wesleyan University Press



MIDDLETOWN, Conn. — Joy Harjo is a “poet-healer-philosopher-saxophonist,” and one of the most powerful Native American voices of her generation. She has spent the past two decades creating and exploring her place in poetry, music, dance/performance, and art.

Soul Talk, Song Language is a distinctive book, gathering together Harjo’s insights and explorations in the form of interviews and essays, showing how artistic creation can bring about spiritual and cultural renewal.

Harjo reflects upon the nuances and development of her art, the importance of her origins, and the arduous reconstructions of the tribal past, as well as the dramatic confrontation between Native American and Anglo civilizations. She takes us on a journey into her identity as an artist, as a woman, and as Native person. With her work poised between poetry and music, she encompasses her tribal heritage, and causes the reader to pause and reassess the American cultural patrimony.

Harjo’s inspiration is often rooted in ritual and ceremony. Her cultural and family background played important roles in the formation of her art. Soul Talk, Song Language is an exploration of how identity and culture shapes the work of the artist, the language of the poet and musician—not only inspiring the end content of the work, but the creation process itself.

Joy Harjo is a poet, performer, writer, and musician of the Mvskoke/Creek Nation. She has published seven books of acclaimed poetry including She Had Some Horses, In Mad Love and War, The Woman Who Fell from the Sky, and How We Became Human: New and Selected Poems.

She has produced five award-winning albums of music and poetry including “Letter from the End of the Twentieth Century”, “Winding through the Milky Way”, and “Red Dreams: A Trail Beyond Tears.”

Tanaya Winder is a poet from the Duckwater Shoshone and Southern Ute nations. She is pursuing an MFA in poetry from University of New Mexico and working on her first collection of poetry. Laura Coltelli is a professor of American literature at the University of Pisa, Italy. Her publications include Winged Words, American Indian Writers Speak, and an edited collection of essays, Reading Leslie Marmon Silko.

“Soul Talk, Song Language”:
Conversations with Joy Harjo
Joy Harjo and Tanaya Winder
Foreword by Laura Coltelli
158 pp. 11 illus. 6x9”
$24.95 jacketed cloth
ISBN: 978-0-8195-7150-2
$12.99 eBook

OBITUARIES

PAMELA CHECOTAH

HOLDENVILLE — Pamela Sue Checotah, a resident of Okmulgee, passed away Oct. 23, 2011 at the age of 33.

She was born Oct. 2, 1978 to Everett and Etta Marie (Starr) Checotah in Okmulgee, Okla.

She served in the Oklahoma National Guard and was a member of the Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee. She was planning on graduating from OSU-Okmulgee in December 2011, majoring in Finance.

She was preceded in death by her father, Everett Checotah; sister, Carolyn Sue Checotah; grandparents, Amos and Elizabeth Starr and grandparents, Verna Grayson and Roman Checotah.

Survivors include her three children, Andrew Benson, Talya Benson and Braden Berryhill; mother, Etta Marie Checotah; three sisters, Angela Checotah, Lisa Arnold and Tammy Checotah; brother, Daniel Checotah and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

Wake Services were Oct. 27 at the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Okmulgee.

Funeral Services were Oct. 28, 2011 at the Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee with Rev. Randy Colbert, Rev. David Dunson and Rev. Alfred Berryhill officiating.

Pallbearers were Kyle Clark, Clayton Clark, Jerry Wittman, Richard Fixico, Eric Checotah, Evan Checotah, Nathan Checotah and Brian Arnold.

Honorary Pallbearers were Ryan Holata, Hunter Arnold, Andrew Benson, Braden Berryhill and Daniel Checotah.

Military honors were conducted by the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard.

Burial followed the service at the Okmulgee Cemetery under the direction of the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Okmulgee.

DOROTHY LEE

SAPULPA — Dorothy Lee, 80, of Sapulpa left the earth on Oct. 6, 2011, at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa. Dorothy was born Dec. 13, 1930 and lived in the Kellyville and Sapulpa area all her life.

Lee was preceded in death by her husband, Jeff Lee, and daughter, Jeanetta Johnson.

She is survived by her two sons, Benny Lee and wife Erma, of Tulsa; Tommy Lee and wife Marcia of Kellyvile; two daughters, Peggy Lee; Jeanice Brown and husband Floyd, both of Sapulpa; grandchildren, Junior and Janet Johnson, of Broken Arrow; Cheryl and Rocky Lindsey, Dawn Brown, Heather and Timothy Stevens, Micckah Brown, Sha-a-ne Brown, all of Sapulpa; great-grandchildren, Vincent Johnson of Broken Arrow, Kyle Lindsey, Alexis Lindsey, Megan Lindsey, Breanna Lindsey and Bryce Lindsey, ShawBaw Brown, Zonu Brown, Brook Stevens, Malachi Stevens, all of Sapulpa; two brothers, James Watashe, Jr., and Roman Watashe.

Wake services were held on Oct. 9, 2011 at the Smith Funeral Home in Sapulpa.

Funeral services were held Oct. 10, at the Smith Funeral Chapel in Sapulpa. Officiating were Revs. Truitt Johns, Al Pulver and Jimmy Alexander. Pallbearers were Andy Watashe, Yoney Spencer, B.J. Butler, Terry Watashe, Curtis Watashe and Damon Koshiway. Honorary bearers were Junior Johnson, Benny Lee, Jerry Watashe, Andrew Watashe, Solomon Watashe, Sr., Sylvester Watashe, B.J. Baker, Jimmy Baker, Howard Baker, Jr., and Tony Watashe. Interment is at the Watashe Family Cemetery in Sapulpa.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Smith Funeral Home.

PEGGY LEE

SAPULPA — Peggy Jean Lee, 58, of Sapulpa passed away Oct. 12, 2011 at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa.

She was born Dec. 28, 1952 to Jeff and Dorothy (Watashe) Lee. Lee worked at the Hard Rock Cherokee Casino. She was a member of New Joy Indian Baptist Church and a member of Polecat Ceremonial Ground.

Peggy was preceded in death by her parents, Jeff (Chub) and Dorothy Lee; and sister, Jeanetta Johnson.

Peggy is survived by her sister, Jeanice Brown of the home; two brothers, Benny Lee and wife Erma of Tulsa and Tommy Lee and wife Marcia of Kellyville; nieces, Dawn Brown, Heather Stevens and husband Tim, Micckah Brown, Sha-a-ne Brown and Cheryl Lindsey and husband Rocky all of Sapulpa,; nephew, Wilbert Johnson, Jr., and wife Janet of Broken Arrow; great-nieces, ShawBaw Brown, Zonu Brown, Megan Lindsey, Alexis Lindsey, Breanna Lindsey, Brooklyn Stevens, Angel Lunsford, April Pacheco and Janet Pacheco; great-nephews, Malachi Stevens, Bryce Lindsey Kyle, Lindsey and Vincent Johnson, all of Sapulpa.

Wake services were held Oct. 16, 2011 at Smith Funeral Chapel.

Funeral service were Oct. 17, 2011 at Smith Funeral Chapel in Sapulpa. Officiating were the Revs. Truitt Johns, Al Pulver, Jimmy Alexander, and Ray Samuels.

Pallbearers were Andy Watashe, Solomon Watashe, Andrew Watashe, Miko Wildcat, Jimmy Baker and Phillip Wilson. Honorary pallbearers were Jr. Johnson, Richie Wildcat, Terry Watashe, Jerry Watashe, Sylvester Watashe and Kyle Lindsey.

Interment was held at the Watashe Family Cemetery in Sapulpa.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Smith Funeral Home.

JAMES WATASHE SR.

SAPULPA — James Watashe, Jr., 84, of Sapulpa, left peacefully at his home Nov. 15, 2011, with his loving and caring wife of 63 years at his side.

He was a machinist and veteran of the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force Air and Rescue. He gave his life to the Lord at Little Cussetah Baptist Church during vacation bible school.

He was also a faithful member of Community Indian Baptist Church where he would keep the grounds cut and groomed until a year ago when his health started to fail. His laughter, singing and heartfelt prayers will be sorely missed.

He was preceded in death by three sons, Benjamin, Vincent and Dean; three brothers, Andrew, Lewis and Lawrence; a sister, Dorothy Lee; his mother, Hattie Barnett and father, James Watashe, Sr.

James leaves behind five daughters and one son: Elizabeth and Howard Baker, Jr., Teresa and Frank Locust, Paulette "Bucket" and Richard Shade, Justine Gail Jones, Diana and Melvin Wilson, Douglas and Pam Watashe. James loved all his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren and his best friends Pastor Truitt and Anna Johns.

Wake services were Nov. 18, 2011, at the Community Indian Baptist Church in Sapulpa. Funeral services were Nov. 19, 2011, at the Community Indian Baptist Church. Officiating were the Revs. Truitt Johns, Ray Samuels, and Al Pulver. Pall bearers were Matthew Watashe, William Baker, Melvin Wilson, Richard Shade, Howard Baker, Jr., James Baker, Damon Koshiway and Michael Hubard. Honorary bearers were Sgt. Adair Fox, Douglas Watashe, Rick Childs, Frank Locust, Roman Watashe, Raymond Chuckluck, Chuck Whitson and Robert Mann.

Interment was held at the Watashe Family Cemetery.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Smith Funeral Home.

Send us your lifestyle news

To submit obituaries or announcements, please mail to:

***MCN
Communications
PO Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK 74447***

***or email:
LeeL@muscogeenation-nsn.gov***

If you would like your photos returned, please specify a return address.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DANIELLE BEAR

HENRYETTA — Danielle Bear (Creek-Seminole) was recently selected to the 2011 Fast-pitch All-State Team. She will be playing for the Middle East as a Utility Player.

Bear has been on Henryetta High School's varsity softball team for four years. As a senior, she had a .486 batting average and a .688 slugging average. She also had a .940 in the field. Bear was also selected to All-County.

Bear is a member of the National Honor Society and Talent Search. She is concurrently enrolled at Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology. Bear maintains a 3.4 grade point average and is on the Superintendent's Honor Roll.

She is the daughter of Daniel and Melissa Bear. Paternal grandparents are Ashley and Linda Bear and the late Mary Bear; Liza Leader and the late Barney Leader. Maternal grandparents are Ester Brown, the late Monroe Burgess and the late Albert Brown.

Bear is of the Wind Clan and her Tribal Town is Nuyaka. Her ceremonial ground is New Tulsa and she attends Little Cussetah United Methodist Church.

LILY BOAZ

MOORE — Lily Barnard Boaz was recently promoted to Warrant Officer in the U.S. Army. She is currently being trained to fly the Apache helicopters at Fort Rucker, Ala. She has previously served as Sgt. in charge of the mounted color guard at Fort Carson, Colo., where she was honored at the opening Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

She has served in Iraq, Kosovo and Germany as a medic. Before being promoted to Warrant Officer, Lily was a Drill Sergeant in Fort Jackson, S.C., and Staff Sergeant in charge of training.

Her parents, Rick and Linda Barnard, as well as her family, Alan and Linda Walters of Moore, Joey Grayson of Tulsa Johnny Checotah of Oklahoma City and Roman Checotah of El Reno are very proud of all she has accomplished.

Lily is of the Raccoon Clan.

KERRY DEERE

LOS ANGELES — Kerry Deere was recently awarded a doctorate from the University of California-Los Angeles.

Deere completed a study on female guppies and how they choose males with low, medium and high levels of drosopterin to see which males they preferred.

Co-authors of the study were Janet Sinsheimer, a professor of biostatistics, biomathematics and human genetics at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and former UCLA undergraduate Aida Sun.

Deere is the daughter of Dale Deere.

LINDA ENLOW

SAPULPA — Linda Enlow was recently recognized by the Sapulpa Business Women's Group as the "Woman of Achievement." Enlow is currently the assistant director and a counselor at Central Technology Center in Sapulpa.

Enlow received her doctorate in educational administration and has been at Central Technology Center for 20 years.

CHAD MCKINNEY

KILGORE, Texas — Chad McKinney recently came in sixth place in a national student day contest and won an Apple iPad. McKinney is listed as being in the top one percent at Kilgore College and was recently accepted into Phi Theta Kappa Fraternity.

McKinney is a recipient of a scholarship from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. McKinney is a sophomore studying computer science and is of the Deer Clan.

CARISMA LYDAY

BERKELEY, Calif. — Carisma Lyday has chosen UC-Berkeley to attend.

A four-time track state champion, Lyday will be leading the Golden Bears in the PAC-12 division. Lyday's events will be the 100 meter, 200 meter and a member of the 4x1 relays.

Lyday will be studying biology. Father David Lyday, is proud of her academic and athletic accomplishments.

BIRTH

MICAH HARJO

TULSA — Micah Chebon Harjo was born on Aug. 2, 2011 at Hillcrest Hospital in Tulsa to Sharon Marshall and Tim Harjo.

He weighed four lbs., and one ounce. He was 16 inches in length. His maternal grandparents are Leatrice Manley and the late Steve Marshall. His paternal grandparents are the late Naomi and J.W. Harjo.

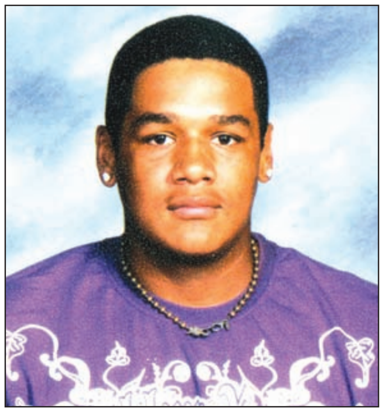
Micah is of the Bear Clan.

BIRTHDAYS

BULLET/MCNAC

OKMULGEE — Twins, Joe McNac and Mary Bullett celebrated their seventieth birthday. The two were born on Nov. 23, 1941.

COLBY MARSHALL



EUFAULA — Colby Marshall celebrated his "sweet sixteen" Oct. 9, 2011. Marshall is the son of Sharon Marshall and stepdad Tim Harjo. Maternal grandparents are Leatrice Manley and the late Steve Marshall.

Marshall attends Eufaula High School and plays football for the Eufaula Ironheads.

Marshall is of the Bear Clan.

KAITLYN HARJO

EUFAULA — Kaitlyn Rose Harjo celebrated her eighth birthday on Nov. 17, 2011.

Harjo is the sister of Garrett, Colby, and Kierra Marshall and Brandon and Micah Harjo. Maternal grandparent is Leatrice Manely. Maternal grandparents are J.W. and Naomi Harjo.

Harjo attends Eufaula Elementary School and is of the Bear Clan.

MCN Communications booking senior portraits

Media Release
MNN Staff

OKMULGEE — The MCN Photography Department offers quality photos for citizens at an affordable price.

Senior pictures and family portraits are available in-studio or on-location throughout the Creek Nation jurisdictional boundaries.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Mallory Bible at (918) 732-7639.

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PRESENTS

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NOVEMBER 11, 2011 – FEBRUARY 29, 2012

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Developed by the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service with generous support from Elizabeth Hunter Solomon, the Smithsonian Women's Committee, and the AMB Foundation.

Muscogee Nation News seeks reporter

Media Release
Muscogee Nation News

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation News has an employment opportunity available for the position of MNN Reporter.

An ideal candidate will possess reporting, writing and photography skills. Other duties shall include, gathering and verifying information regarding story through interview, observation, and research. Candidate will also assist Editor with news stories and updates for the newspaper by establishing and maintaining communication with tribal departments of Muscogee (Creek) Nation, as well as communication with all Creek boundary community centers, tribal towns and tribal churches regarding content retrieval.

A bachelor's degree in journalism, communications or public relations as well as knowledge of Adobe, Photoshop, InDesign and Acrobat software are preferred.

For more information on this position, please visit the official website of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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OFFICIAL SEMI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Dec. 2011
Volume 41, Issue 19

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

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CMN Dedicates new student housing

• 16 new units to accommodate 64 students

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation elected officials and College of the Muscogee Nation staff open the newly-constructed student housing units Monday, Dec. 12, 2011 on the college's campus located in Okmulgee.

Gary Fife
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation took another step towards creating a total campus life experience for its students. Sixteen new apartment-style housing units will be available to provide students with on-campus housing. Each two bedroom unit will house four students, with a living room and two bathrooms for their comfort.

James King, CMN's Regent's Director for Institutional Effectiveness explains, "It puts them on campus 24 hours a day, seven days a week. That gives them the feel for what an academic campus is like, and so they have the full exposure to college life. We're real excited about this, because is it a step forward on our master site plan."

SEE HOUSING - A7

Inauguration ceremonies set for Jan. 7, 2012

Media Release
MNN Staff

OKMULGEE — The inauguration for Principal Chief-elect George Tiger, Second Chief-elect Roger Barnett and new members of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council is set for Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012 and will be held at the Multipurpose Building at the Claude A. Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee.

Ceremonies will begin at 10 a.m., and will be followed by several other activities throughout the day and evening.

Dignitaries, including local, state, national and other tribal governments, are scheduled to attend.

This event will be open to the media. Press accommodations will be available. For more information, contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Public Relations Coordinator Edwin Marshall at (918) 732-7617 or (405) 613-2695.

Warrington to pay back $7,600 tobacco bribe

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Edmond "Ed" Warrington, 62, has made restitution in the matter of accepting a $7,600 bribe from Randy Benham, the owner of Briggs Tobacco, according to a Dec. 2 Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court order.

Warrington was the third tribal employee involved in a bribery case that went to trial in late November. Warrington testified against Dana Johnson and Antone Lee during the trial. Johnson and Lee were convicted on several counts of bribery.

In the order, the money Warrington is to pay back is considered property of the United States and will be held by the MCN Controller's office until such time authorities or representatives from the United States make a demand for the restitution.

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Letter from the Editor

A4 LEGAL
District Court filings

A6 CAPITOL NEWS
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A7 EDUCATION
CMN adds student housing to campus (cont.)

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letters to the editor

Citizen calls for accountability from tribal officials

OKMULGEE — What do you want your Representative to do?

What would happen if your boss assigned you a task with a deadline and you ignored it and did what you wanted instead?

What would you do if you were the boss of a large corporation and you suspected that your employees were stealing you blind? And, what would you do if your employee told you what to do, and if you didn't do it, threatened to harm you?

What would you do if your employees refused to talk to you, to tell you what they were doing, and held secret meetings?

What would you do if your employees wrote all the rules, and made all policies and gave themselves raises in pay without asking for your input and at the end of the day made themselves more powerful and authoritative than you?

What would you do if your employees ordered you not to use any buildings or facilities on your property without their approval?

And, what would you do if your employees obtained control of your checkbook and began spending your money as if it belonged to them?

I know what we would do; we wouldn't do anything and how do I know that? We wouldn't do anything because we haven't.

Our representatives have been hired by the citizens of the Creek Nation for a specific task. We have made a formal agreement with them to elect and pay them for a service that we want them to do. This was a formal agreement; a legal and binding agreement setting out the terms of their employment. They have no choice but to do what we want them to do, or they can resign or be fired.

We have agreed to elect and pay them for a service that we want accomplished. But the tables have been turned and our employees, the elected Creek governmental officials, have become our bosses, and as a result, our problem.

They tell us what to do, and we do it. Our elected officials do what they want because they have not been given an assignment and have nothing to do. It might be that our representatives believe that citizens will not hold them accountable.

What do you want your representative to do? Give your representative a written assignment with a deadline. Ask her/him to reply to you in writing so that you can have a record about what your representative says he/she is going to do about his/her assignment. Make sure that your representative understands that his/her written reply is necessary for you to establish a legal record on which her/his future employment depends.

The National Council Representatives will in all likelihood resent citizens for their presumptuous behaving that is more suited to somebody belonging to a higher position. They will be right to think that, and about time they did.

— Jacob Narcomey

Citizens questions Tulsa Creek Indian Community Business Board practices

TULSA — Recently it has become known that two former Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees were convicted of multiple bribery counts related to an FBI sting involving payoffs by a cigarette wholesaler.

It is also well known that certain Creek Nation Community leaders have been accused of allocating monies to individuals who were not entitled to such monies. I guess that the giving of money to someone who is not entitled to it is not considered bribery, but a gift.

Maybe it could be a breach of confidence. Maybe it is a misappropriation of funds. Who knows?

It is more than likely something for the legal beagles to decipher. My point is that there are Creek communities that give money away even though they know it is inappropriate or non-productive and they are not prosecuted or dragged into court.

I am a member of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community (TCIC) and our community has a Business Board.

These are elected individuals who are elected to seek out business opportunities that will bring income into the community. They are also bound by the Tulsa Creek Community Constitution and bylaws that direct them to get the approval of the community prior to agreeing to go forward with any business venture.

A few years ago the Business Board gave $25,000 to an upstart company. The TCIC Business Board did not get TCIC approval as required by the TCIC Constitution and bylaws prior to giving $25,000 for such a business venture.

I believe that such a situation borders on what could be defined as fraud and maybe misappropriation of funds. Now I am not an attorney, but I can read and I have looked up the definitions and the situation fits the term. Now were theses individuals prosecuted? The answer is no!

Maybe it's because TCIC did not want to hurt anyone's feelings for making such a mistake. I look at it like this. That is money that belonged to TCIC and as a member of TCIC it belonged to me. If you are wondering what benefit TCIC has gained from the business venture, I can tell you that TCIC has not seen one single penny from this business venture.

On another note, TCIC paid (in accordance with policy) an officer who did not live within the boundaries of TCIC. Of course when information surfaced regarding this officer lived outside TCIC's boundaries the officer resigned.

The illegal officer knew that they lived outside TCIC's boundaries but yet ran for, and won, an elected position. Now this officer received a stipend for serving as an officer of TCIC, but upon resignation the "illegal" officer was not asked to return the money they were paid. As a matter of fact, they were paid for the last month in office even though they did not serve the full month.

Again, this situation fits the definitions of fraud and misappropriation of funds. Again, I am not an attorney; I am just going by the definitions.

I myself am frustrated by the lack of backbone within our community to go forward against those who have violated TCIC's confidence. No legal action has been taken against those who have violated TCIC's trust.

Are we as a tribe not accountable, at least to ourselves? It would appear we should put a big sign outside TCIC's property and out on highway 75 that states, "FREE MONEY – APPLY WITHIN."

—Rick Wilde

Citizen calls for action from U.S. and tribal officials

OKMULGEE — To the Leaders of the Muscogee people,

These few words are to be true, for they are the words of my heart. I am aware of the Nations leaders, gathering in Washington. I am also aware of the Mother Earth accord.

As one of many, like a blade of grass on this land, I too have fallen victim to the large oil companies, for the crippling addiction to oil is in everything; from the ink in our clothes to the processed foods we consume.

So I am begging you to sign this treaty paper, share the information and push it to the next level.

For where will we run to when the Grandmother begins to cleanse herself? What other planet can sustain the life that we need or supply the oxygen and clean water that our bodies survive on?

I know time is not on our side anymore, and I feel the importance of detoxifying my body for the great change, that is soon to take place. Mvto.

Please accept my greatest respects,

— Mickal Loudermilk

Child of this earth and citizen of the Muscogee Nation

Citizen thanks Weleetka ENP

WELEETKA — Dear Rebecca,

I want to thank the Weleetka Eldery Nutrition Program, the ENP administration staff and the Division of Health employees for the wonderful and bountiful Thanksgiving food basket that was brought to me at my home.

I really appreciated the gift and I love all the people and wish God's blessings for each and every one of you.

I just want you all to know that I hope for the best for you and that God really blesses you.

Thank you again, *mvto*,

—Myrtle Fraser

2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from Sept. 1, 2011 through Sept. 30, 2011 are as follows:

Divorce:

Nicole Driver v. Brian Driver	Divorce
Kenneth Johnson v. Elizabeth Johnson	Divorce
Franstella LaSarge v. Anthony LaSarge	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Rita Lowe v. Jason Tiger	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Janice Tiger v. Loriette Bible	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Mia Weisler v. Brandon Washington	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Melissa Krystynak v. Jason Strunk	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Charles Keith v. Felicia Keith	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Joseph Davis Jr., v. Christine Stottlemyer	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Selestene Lee v. Christopher Giger	Child Support
OCSE ex rel., Brianna Ray v. Samuel Pawnee	Child Support
OCSE ex rel., Leala Graham v. Dustin Graham	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Monique Harjo Hawkins v. Charles Harjo	Child Support

Ex-Parte

Angela Searcy v. Mike & Toby Sheets	Ex-Parte
John Josie Jr., v. John Josie Sr.	Ex-Parte
David Coyle on behalf of minor child K.C., v. Whitney Benton	Ex-Parte
Katherine Raper v. Randall Floyd	Ex-Parte
Megan Jacobs v. Jordan Harjo	Ex-Parte

Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Terri Baldridge	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
MCN v. Michael Hullett	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS
MCN v. Monica Weaver	Ct. 1: Possession of CDS Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Charles W. Harjo	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Charles Overstreet	Ct. 1: Manufacturing

Traffic:

MCN v. Andrew Sandoval	DUS
MCN v. Andrew Sandoval	No Insurance
MCN v. Lee Frazier	No Insurance
MCN v. Lee Frazier	Expired Tag
MCN v. Kyle Milton	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Chandler Schwerdtfeger	Open Receptacle containing alcoholic beverage
MCN v. Jerri Wright	DUS
MCN v. Misty Wielener	Duties in Event of an Accident
MCN v. Karen Rowan	DUS
MCN v. Corey Vishy	Expired Tag
MCN v. Tracey McGowen	Expired Tag
MCN v. Nicholas Newton	Expired Tag
MCN v. Nicholas Newton	DUS
MCN v. Nicholas Newton	No Insurance

Marriage License:

Steven Barnett and April Thomas	Marriage License

The District Court filings from Oct. 1, 2011 through Oct. 31, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Bell Finance v. Judy Montiel	Small Claims
Bell Finance v. Katherine Willie	Small Claims
Jessica Richardson v. Michael Abernathy	Petition
Kayla Campbell v. Calvin O'Dell	Petition
Sooner Loan Service v. Lasandra Jones	Small Claims
Sooner Loan Service v. Lucille Bigpond	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Tim Hatton	Small Claims

SEE A4 - A7

Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko, readers?

I hope every has a very merry holiday season and happy New Year. It has been a rough one but I have learned a lot and grown tremendously both personally and professsionally. I have to be grateful for that.

I'm also grateful for faithful friends and family who continue to keep me on track no matter what may be thrown at me.

I traveled to Dallas earlier this month for a the 6th annual DFW Native American Expo at Southfork Ranch where the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as well as a host of other tribes were well-represented.

I got the oppurtunity to visit with a few tribal members who had been keeping up with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation via the *Muscogee Nation News* and was even able to add a few more to the ever-growing subscription list. When we can reach

It was encouraging to hear of the other tribes' successes and Principal Chief-Elect George Tiger commented during his speech that when one nation succeeds, we all do. Look for the full story in the next edition of the MNN, which will be arriving in a shiny new package next month. Santa knows what's up.

I hope you enjoy the last edition of the year and look for the full year-in-review in next month's edition. Mvto for reading.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7720 or email me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Civil:

Noble Finance v. Ashley Carter	Small Claims
Olivia: Dalton	Name Change
Ashlee Demery v. Troy Cooper	Petition
Michael Cole II v. Tracy Chaney	Petition
Saber Acceptance v. Ashley Harjo	Petition
David Coyle v. Whitney Benton	Petition
Nathaniel LaSarge	Name Change
Noble Finance v. Renee McGirt	Foreign Judgment
Empire Finance v. Michael Proctor	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Sharon Proctor	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Jason Harley	Small Claims
Steven Orr v. Loretta Butcher	Petition
Marcus Harjo v. Tesha McCracken	Petition
Bell Finance v. Kim Martin	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Kenneth Nixon	Small Claims
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Theran Richards	Foreign Judgment
Misty Harrison v. Thomas Giles	Petition
Saber Acceptance Co. v. Frances Guzman	Petition

Divorce:

Lynn Russell v. Marvin Russell	Divorce
Teresa Shatswell v. Coubis Shatswell Jr.	Divorce
Christopher Fixico v. Meagan Brown	Divorce
Jarod Mosquito v. Tyesha Mosquito	Divorce
Michael Tiger v. Vanessa Tiger	Divorce
Sandra Rodgers v. Kevin Rodgers	Divorce
Mary Bell v. Jeffery Bell	Divorce
Mandy Satawake v. Bobby Satawake	Divorce
Tiffany Stockstill v. Doyle Stockstill	Divorce
LaDonna Howard v. Shannon Howard	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE ex. rel., Nicole Smith v. Jorge Gomez	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Alisha Chambers v. Thomas Chambers	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Shawna Moore v. Donald Royse	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Nikki Tiger v. Quincy Snodgrass	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Carolyn Tiger v. Herrod Anderson	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Jessica Chippis v. Tyler Chippis	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Ashley Clark v. Jonas Ponkilla	Child Support
OCSe ex. rel., Rachel Hart v. Matthew Smith	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Leeanna Dodson v. Bunnie Jesse	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Jilian Watson v. Virginia Morales	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Kaycee Fortner v. Ryan Adair	Child Support

Ex-Parte

Katherine Raper v. Randall Floyd	Ex Parte
Stephanie Primeaux v. Thomas Griffin	Ex Parte
Gabrielle Hammon v. Christopher Cottrell	Ex Parte
Gabrielle Hammon v. Christpher Cottrell	Ex Parte
ShaRee Hill v. Byron Edmondson	Ex Parte
Meske Wind v. Marcy Harjo	Ex Parte

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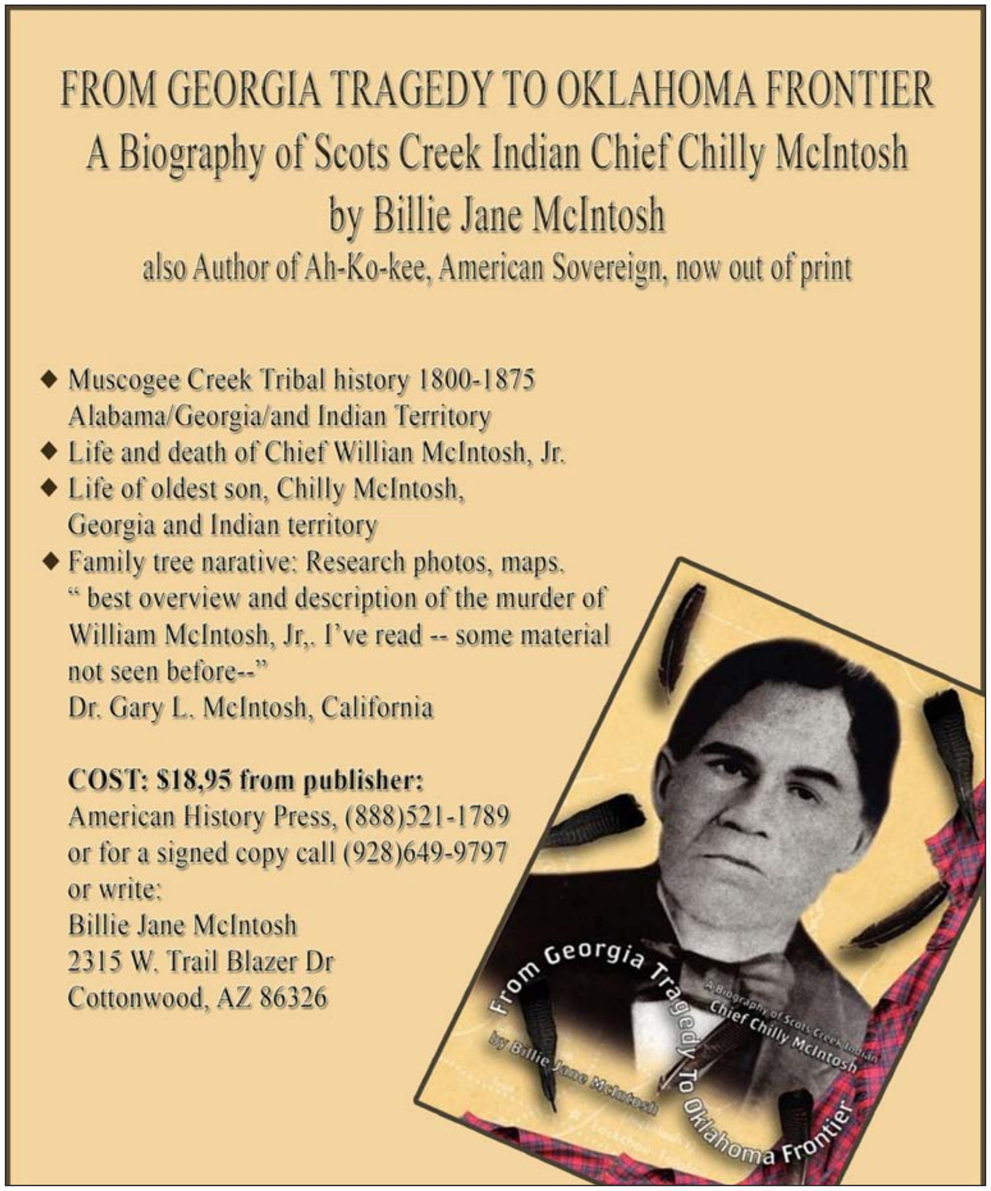

FROM GEORGIA TRAGEDY TO OKLAHOMA FRONTIER
A Biography of Scots Creek Indian Chief Chilly McIntosh
by Billie Jane McIntosh
also Author of Ah-Ko-kee, American Sovereign, now out of print

◆ Muscogee Creek Tribal history 1800-1875
Alabama/Georgia/and Indian Territory
◆ Life and death of Chief Willian McIntosh, Jr.
◆ Life of oldest son, Chilly McIntosh,
Georgia and Indian territory
◆ Family tree narative: Research photos, maps.
" best overview and description of the murder of
William McIntosh, Jr,. I've read -- some material
not seen before--"
Dr. Gary L. McIntosh, California

COST: $18,95 from publisher:
American History Press, (888)521-1789
or for a signed copy call (928)649-9797
or write:
Billie Jane McIntosh
2315 W. Trail Blazer Dr
Cottonwood, AZ 86326

From Georgia Tragedy To Oklahoma Frontier
A Biography of Scots Creek Indian
Chief Chilly McIntosh
by Billie Jane McIntosh

Criminal Felony:

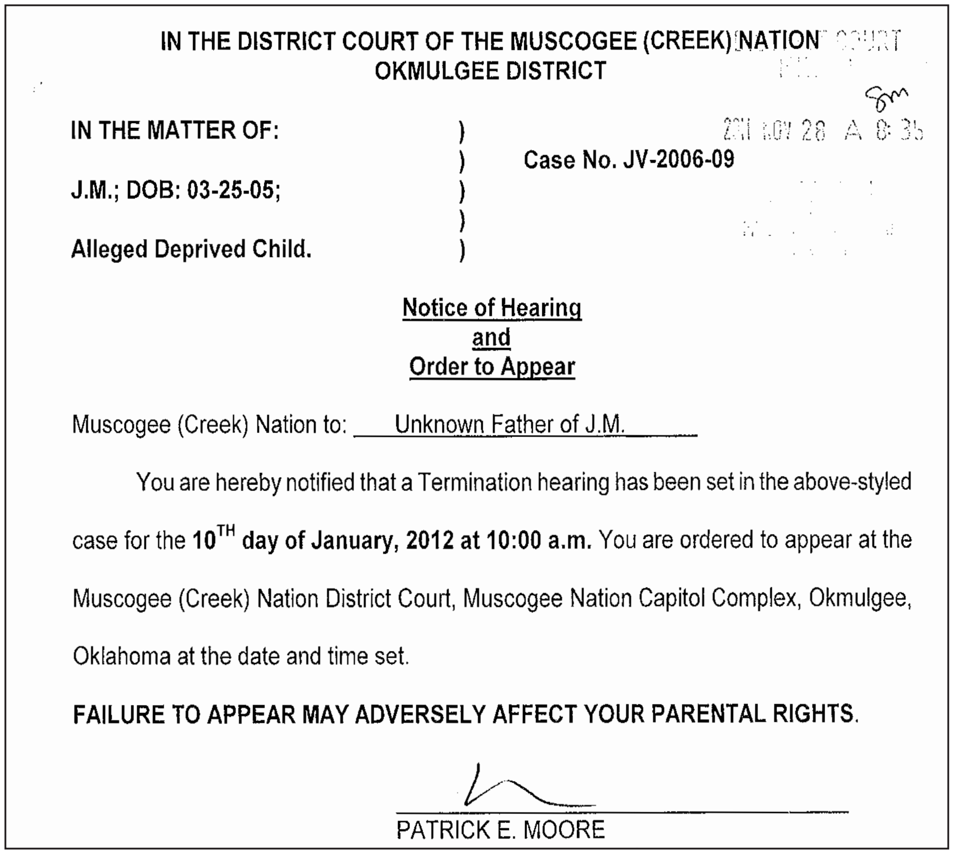
MCN v. Jason Raper	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
	Ct. 2: Possession of Paraphernalia

Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Crister Cooper-Carson	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v Elizabeth Ingram.	Ct. 1: Theft

Traffic:

MCN v. Clifford Reeves	Transporting an Open Container
MCN v. Jason Curtner	Opening in a manner not reasonable or proper
MCN v. Jerry Taylor	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Roy Love	DUS
MCN v. Roy Love Person	Convicted of a Felony prohibited from carry firearm
MCN v. Charles Overstreet	DUS
MCN v. Scott Skelten	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Bradford Clayton	DUS
MCN v. Bradford Clayton	No Insurance
MCN v. Andrew Ward	Expired Tag
MCN v. David Boos	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Roxanne Nelson	Trespassing
MCN v. LaQuentin Daniels	DUS
MCN v. William Harper	DUS
MCN v. Tameeka Brown	Driving Without Required Registration
MCN v. Johnny Cooper	DUS
MCN v. Cynthia Buxton	No Insurance
MCN v. Cynthia Buxton	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jacob Tobiasson	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. John Pickle	No Insurance



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

COURT

Sm
2011 NOV 28 A 8:35

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2006-09**
J.M.; DOB: 03-25-05;)
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

Notice of Hearing
and
Order to Appear

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Unknown Father of J.M.

You are hereby notified that a Termination hearing has been set in the above-styled case for the **10TH day of January, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.** You are ordered to appear at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Muscogee Nation Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at the date and time set.

FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS.

PATRICK E. MOORE

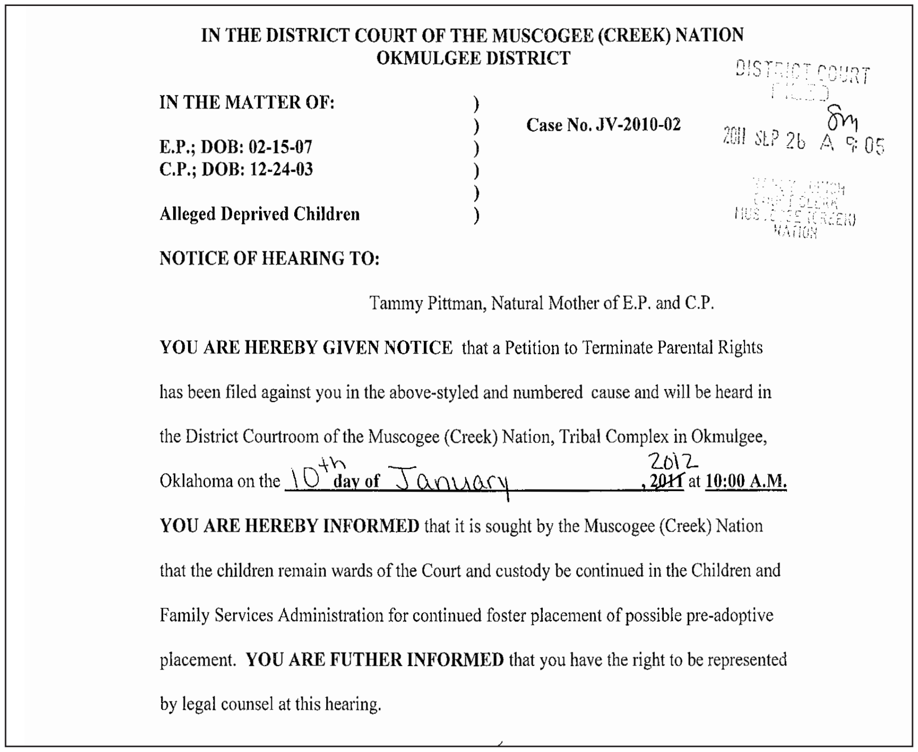
Marriage License:

Jerrad Moore and Meredith Johnson	Marriage License
Randall Miller and Janice Lancaster	Marriage License

The District Court filings from Nov. 1, 2011 through Nov. 31, 2011 are as follows:

Civil:

Progressive Car Finance v. Theresa Marie Draper a/k/a Theresa Marie Virgil	Petition



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
Sm
2011 SEP 26 A 9:05
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

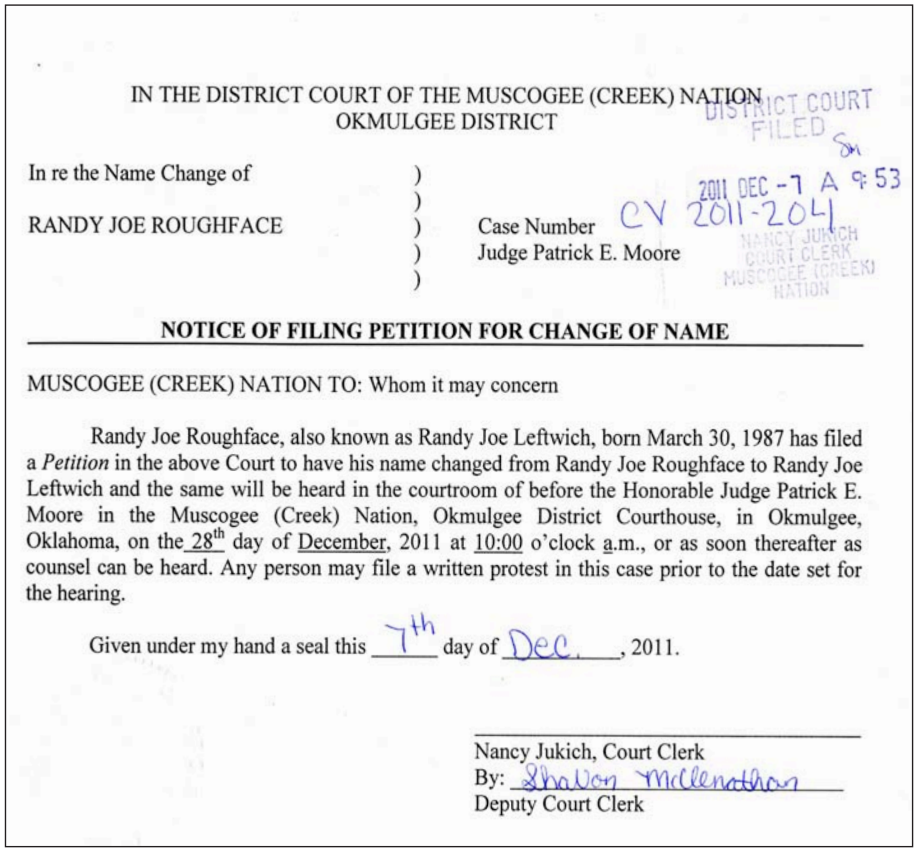
IN THE MATTER OF:)
) **Case No. JV-2010-02**
E.P.; DOB: 02-15-07)
C.P.; DOB: 12-24-03)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Tammy Pittman, Natural Mother of E.P. and C.P.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 10th **day of** January, ~~2011~~ 2012 at **10:00 A.M.**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
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2011 DEC -7 A 9:53
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the Name Change of)
)
RANDY JOE ROUGHFACE) Case Number CV 2011-204
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Randy Joe Roughface, also known as Randy Joe Leftwich, born March 30, 1987 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Randy Joe Roughface to Randy Joe Leftwich and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 28th day of December, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 7th day of Dec., 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By: Shalon McClenathan
Deputy Court Clerk

Emvponayv

Gary Fife
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — Any of you old enough to remember the Occupation of Alcatraz? The group, Indians of All Tribes, occupied the former federal prison for 19 months, from Nov. 20, 1969, to June 11, 1971. Some of the demands during the American Indian occupation of Alcatraz was to gain ownership of the island in San Francisco Bay and to create a cultural center.

The group never got title to the island but, 40 years later, the former band practice room in the cell block basement has been transformed into a multimedia exhibit of that 19-month occupation that many consider the birth of American Indian activism.

Photos, videos and sound recordings will become part of Alcatraz's permanent exhibit. Wilma Mankiller was one of those young people who took part in the occupation.

So, how many of you are thinking, 'Oh yeah, I remember that." Or how many are thinking, 'Alca-what?'

The White House just hosted its third White House Tribal Nations Conference at the beginning of this month in Disneyland-On-The-Potomac.

Tribal leaders from Alaska to Fla., attended, many wearing some tribal regalia. That was a pleasure to see. A lot of tribal travel budgets took a big hit to transport and house the delegates for a conference that had high expectations from the native leadership.

Discussions about making consultations with the government meaningful were a big part of the agenda. It made you wonder about a conference to talk about talking to each other. President Barack Obama spoke to the attendees and was a big hit. Even if you weren't one of his supporters, it was fascinating to be around someone who held such awesome power. All the Secret Service folks in black suits made it look like "Men In Black 3."

The administration made several major policy announcements before and during this conference. It looks like the president was courting the Native American vote.

Two more people have been named as directors for the Museum of the American Indian in Oklahoma City. You remember—the one that isn't finished yet, and has no funding.

Dwight Pickering has been named the new Director of American Indian Education at the state Department of Education. Pickering of Sapulpa, is a member of the Caddo, Otoe, and Kaw tribes and worked most recently as the Education Director for the Caddo Nation. Good luck on a heck of a task.

Finally, haven't seen anything about Gov. Fallin replacing the State Indian Affairs Commission that was abolished. She was supposed to have a new Indian Liaison on the job by Dec. 1. I hear one of the hang-ups is that the position requires someone of one-quarter Indian blood. Now, that shouldn't be that hard in a state with 484,000 Indians (according to the U.S. Census Bureau).

Anybody get caught up in the Christmas shopping frenzy? Did you just have to stand around for hours outside some big box store to get that giant flat screen TV? Was it worth it? I gave it a pass 'cause my old bones wouldn't take it. Borrowing again from Will Rogers, "The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for."

Happy Holidays!

Megan Jacobs v. Jordan Harjo	Petition
Brandon Brown v. Amber Blackard	Petition
Waylon Melton v. Beverly Hubbard	Petition
Progressive Car Finance v. Ellen Hatley	Petition
Royal Finance v. Neccettia Harjo	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Tim Smith	Small Claims
Progressive Car Insurance v. Christy Smith	Foreign Judgment
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Debbie Kaye Turner aka Debra Turner aka Deborah Kaye Turner	Foreign Judgment
Noble Finance v. Joe Ellis	Small Claims
Divorce:	
Meesha Cheree Lysinger v. James Andrew Lysinger	Divorce
Beverly Ranee Wesley v. Mark David Wesley	Divorce
Bradley Keith Fixico v. Danielle Lynette Fixico	Divorce
Dorothy Rhea Dake v. Danial Wayne Dake	Divorce
Tashauna McCutcheon v. James McCutcheon	Divorce
Rebecca Culpepper v. Nicholas Culpepper	Divorce
Mitchell Tiger v. Anastacia O'Seland	Divorce
Pennah Sikes v. James Sikes	Divorce
Jessie Schonfield v. Kyle Schonfield	Divorce
Family Domestic:	
OCSE ex. rel., Tracci Rush v. Brenton Simmons	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Andrea Thompson v. Bobby Wilson	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Carolynn Puckett v. Christopher Mathews	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Jenaya Jones v. Dorian Carr	Child Support
OCSE ex. rel., Debra Cavin v. Harold Cavin	Child Support
Clarence Williams v. OCSE ex. rel., Sherron Roberts	Child Support
Ex-Parte	
Meske Jo Wind v. Marcy Harjo	Ex Parte
Marsha Wilbanks v. Dennis Wilbanks	Ex Parte
Suzy Bucktrot v. Jeffrey Taylor	Ex Parte
Stephanie Primeaux v. Thomas Griffin	Ex Parte
Criminal Misdemeanor:	
MCN v. Paul Harjochee	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v DaShawn Musgrove	Ct. 1: Possession of Open Container
MCN v. Roxanne Nelson	Ct. 1: Criminal Trespass
Traffic:	
MCN v. Christopher Tindell	DUS
MCN v. Gerald Daniels	No Insurance
MCN v. Gerald Daniels	Expired Tag
MCN v. Mary Hensley	Expired Tag
MCN v. Armanda Grizzard	No Insurance
MCN v. Armanda Grizzard	Expired Tag
MCN v. Rachel Berryhill	No Insurance
MCN v. Rachel Berryhill	No Driver's License
MCN v. Samuel Woods	Duties in the event of an accident
MCN v. Lindley Collett	Duties in the event of an accident
MCN v. Sherry Brinkley	Expired Tag
MCN v. Devin Mixon	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Austin Bradley Cox	Expired Tag

Gates Millennium Scholarship due Jan. 11, 2012

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

FAIRFAX, Va. — High school students interested in applying for the Gates Millennium Scholarship program have until Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

The Gates Millennium Scholarship will be awarded to 1,000 students for use at any accredited college or university they choose.

Eligible applicants must be African American, American Indian/ Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American. Applicants must have attained a cumulative high school GPA of a 3.3 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted) or have earned a GED diploma and be Pell Grant eligible, according to the GMS website. Scholarships are only available to students enrolling for the first time at an accredited US college or university, as a degree-seeking student.

Students who classify themselves as American Indian or Alaska Native will be asked to provide proof of tribal enrollment or a certificate from a state or federally recognized tribe.

For more information, check out the GMS website at gmsp.org

Oklahoma State offers scholarships for American Indian students

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

STILLWATER — American Indian students attending Oklahoma State University in Stillwater are eligible for several scholarship opportunities.

The Native American Faculty and Staff Association, Stillwater campus, offers three scholarship programs to assist American Indian students studying at OSU-Stillwater.

Freshmen are able to apply for the NAFSA Freshman Scholarship in the fall semester. The NASFSA Freshman Scholarship was established in 2006 and awards one male and female freshman $1000 scholarship, individually. The scholarship is available based on availability of funds.

Also available are scholarships for transfer, continuing undergraduate and graduate students. Applications for these scholarships are available in the spring semester.

Eligibility requirements for all scholarships include: having a Native American background; being a U.S. citizen; be a full-time student; and posses a minimum 2.5 GPA. Undergraduate students are required to take a minimum of 12 credit hours and graduate students must take a minimum of six credit hours.

For more information on any NAFSA scholarship, please contact the chair of the scholarship committee, Dr. Justin Moss at justin.moss@okstate.edu or (405) 744-5729.

MNN/*Gary Fife*

The College of the Muscogee Nation recently held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newest edition to the campus located in Okmulgee, Okla. The newly constructed student housing units will provide shelter for 64 students.

Housing

Continued from A1

"We want students to be on campus with us as we grow and as we develop. They can then say, 'Yes, I was here at the College of the Muscogee Nation and participated in the growth and development of it as a student."

First priority for the apartments will go to Muscogee citizens, then other Native Americans and finally other eligible students. Other eligibility requirements for the single student housing will be based on income and must be full-time students at the CMN.

College officials are working to obtain another $2.8 million to construct a student union center, library expansion and a cafe for student recreation. Future grant requests would build a book store, fitness center and community meeting facility. Those phases are scheduled to start in April or May of the coming year. Sport activities are part of the housing plan. Basketball and volleyball courts will be added, along with a stickball field.

Security and disciplinary guidelines are going to be part of the plan. The Dean of Student Affairs will be in charge of the housing. A committee will govern discipline and 24-hour security will be provided. A resident manager will be on-site.

The college has already started taking applications; King said 34 students have already applied and are ready to move in.

King was grateful for the backing of the Muscogee tribal government for the projects, "We just appreciate the support of the Principal Chief, the Executive Branch and the National Council, through the Legislative Branch. It has been very important that we have that kind of support in developing this campus."

Parents encouraged in enrolling students in Oklahoma's Promise

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY — Students currently enrolled in the grades 8-10 have until midnight on June 2, 2012 to enroll in the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship program.

The state scholarship program allows families with an income of less than $50,000 to earn free college tuition.

The scholarship covers college tuition for up to five years or until the completion of a bachelor's degree at any public college or university in the state of Oklahoma.

It will also pay a portion of the tuition at an accredited Oklahoma private institution. Students may also receive aid for courses at approved public colleges while working towards an Associate in Applied Science degree.

After students enroll in Oklahoma's Promise, they are expected to attend class regularly, take a 17-unit college-oriented curriculum and have a 2.5 GPA. Students are also expected to maintain a clean record and avoid drugs and alcohol.

The Oklahoma legislature created Oklahoma's Promise in 1992 as an incentive for middle and high school students to commit to academic success and prepare for college.

Since its inception, more than 110,000 students have enrolled in the program and 21,300 students are expected to receive funding by the fall of 2012.

For more information about Oklahoma's Promise or to apply online, visit www.okpromise.org. Information is also available by emailing okpromise@osrhe.edu or by calling (800) 858-1840.

Scholarship helps students excel at private university

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKLAHOMA CITY — American Indian students enrolled at Oklahoma City University are seeing their vision of graduating with the assistance of the American Indian scholarship program.

The American Indian scholarship program is a four-year (eight consecutive semester) scholarship awarded to eligible American Indian students that attend Oklahoma City University.

"My teacher told me about this school and she told me about the American Indian scholarship and she highly, highly suggested me to apply for it," Corey Belvin, 20, said about why she chose to attend OCU.

Belvin a junior studying psychology is a Choctaw tribal member. She also enjoys OCU for its small class size, one-on-one student interaction with professors and its proximity to home.

Other students find comfort in the community at OCU. Jalisa Ross, 19, said "I fell in love with the college my freshman year of high school," Ross continued. "I knew this is where I was gonna go. So when I was applying to colleges, this was the only place I applied to."

However, Ross said she wouldn't recommend only applying to one college.

Ross, Creek, Cherokee and Otoe, is a sophomore studying Business Administration.

Along with the community atmosphere, Ross too enjoys the small class sizes. This year, she has a class that has only six students enrolled.

After graduation, Ross hopes to start a non-profit organization to aid American Indians seeking assistance that isn't associated with the church or government.

Both Ross and Belvin would recommend OCU to students.

Of the 46 American Indian scholarship recipients for the 2011-2012 academic school year, four are Muscogee (Creek), with majors ranging from music business to nursing.

The American Indian scholarship program was created in 2005 and can award up to 15 recipients for the scholarship. The scholarship will help pay the remaining balance for tuition, room and board; provide a book allowance to the library and offers support services.

Free Mvskoke Language classes offered in Okmulgee

Media Release
Mvskoke Language Program

OKMULGEE — Languages in many nations are becoming extinct and will include our Mvskoke language if we neglect to take action now. Our speakers are dwindling. Our language will vanish.

According to Director of the Menominee Nation Early Childhood Head Start located in Wis., Michael Skenadore, "It takes three generations to lose the language. But by focusing on children, you can get it back in one generation."

The information was taken from the 2011 U.S. Office of Head Start Tribal Language Report which states that native speakers are aging. Who will be left to teach the tribal language to the young?

The Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages has identified 22 hotspots around the world where languages are vanishing most rapidly. Two of those hotspots are in the United States: Okla., and the Pacific Northwest (Lovegren 2007).

The report continues by saying three tribes in Okla., reflect this demographic shift and demonstrate the urgency for tribal language efforts. It says among the Choctaw Nation's 200,000 members, only 500 are native speakers. Among Citizen Potawatomi Nation's 27,000 members, there are only three speakers, one of whom learned it as a second language. And among the Osage Tribe's 14,000, there are no speakers.

As Muscogee people, we are in a position to do something now, while we still have fluent speakers and writers.

Flyers, posters and banners with the theme encouraging people to speak will be posted in the complex and in surrounding community areas.

Mvskoke language classes to be held in the Human Development Building on Tuesday and Thursdays beginning Dec. 6 from 12-1 p.m.

These will be in 12-week segments. Attempts to put the language classes on the Internet for distant learning are being developed, however are not yet available.

More Mvskoke language teachers are needed in schools, MCN Day Care and Head Start centers. The list is long and much is needed to attain our objective, language speaking Muscogee (Creeks).

For more information on the language classes, please contact the Mvskoke Language Program at (918) 732-7841.

The end of eight years

• FBI stings, battles with the National Council and communities

Gary Fife
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — After a long involvement in the leadership of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and nearly a decade as its Principal Chief, A.D. Ellis came to the end of that political career. In an interview granted to the Muscogee Nation News, he answered questions about that career.

Foremost on his mind was the recent conviction of two for MCN employees and a Federal Bureau of Investigation 'sting' operation that attempted to find out whether or not Ellis would take a bribe. He didn't.

Ellis: Why pick on employees who've got families, kids in school. I think it's a bad case on the part on the federal government. It makes me mad. I feel just like the people that got convicted.

I'm going to complain. I'm going to get ahold of people in D.C., and see if I can get them listening, I'm going to complain about it. It's just not right.

Q. You were also a target of that sting?

Ellis: They [the FBI] said in court on the witness stand, they were after big fish. They were asked who that was, and they said, 'Chief Ellis.' That I don't understand. If they were after me, why didn't they just come after me and leave the employees alone?

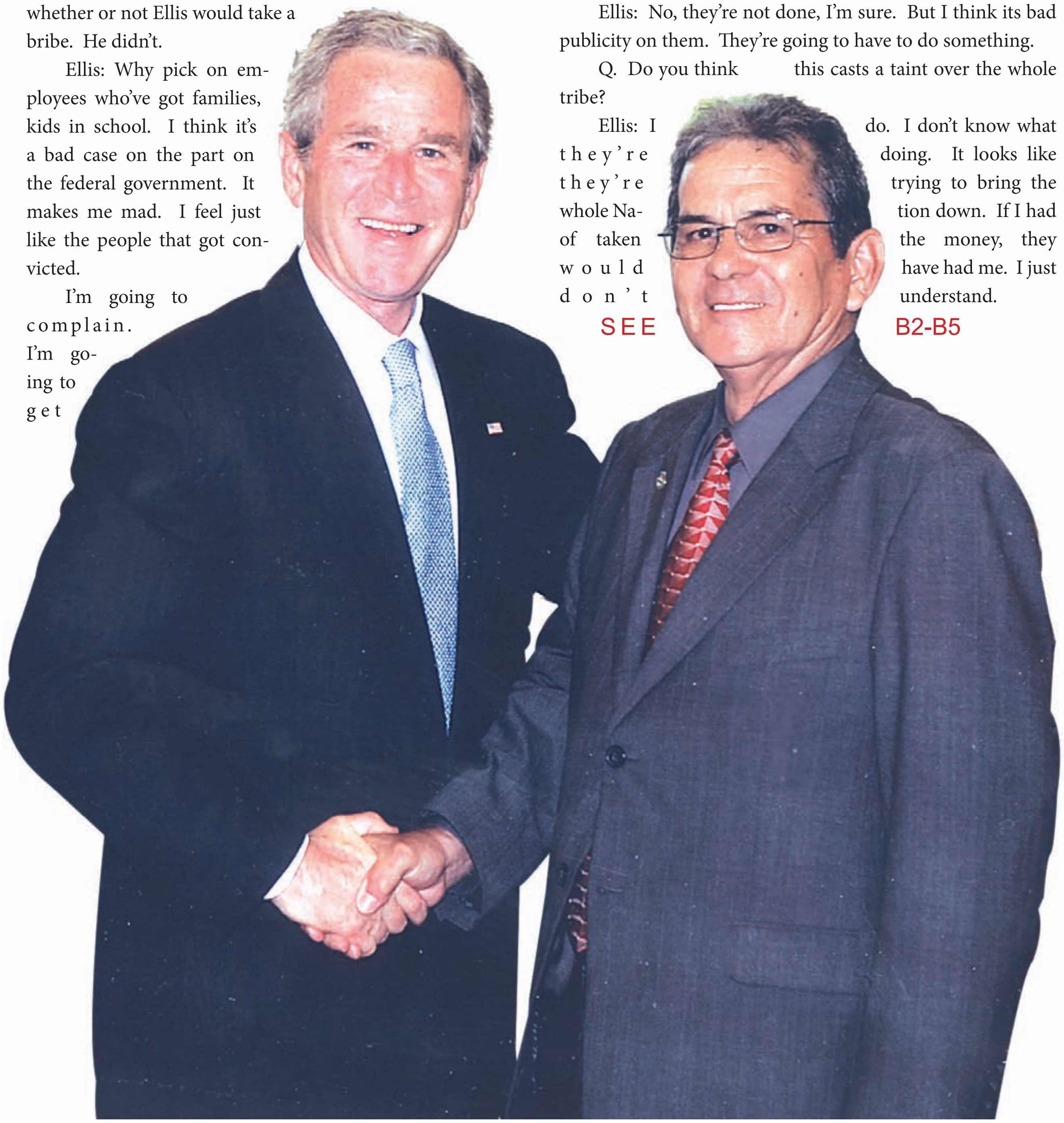
Q. Is the FBI going further, are they done?

Ellis: No, they're not done, I'm sure. But I think its bad publicity on them. They're going to have to do something.

Q. Do you think this casts a taint over the whole tribe?

Ellis: I do. I don't know what they're doing. It looks like they're trying to bring the whole Nation down. If I had of taken the money, they would have had me. I just don't understand.

SEE B2-B5



2004-2011
Numerical Milestones

1: A new cabinet level position, Secretary of the Nation, is created in March 2008. The first Secretary of the Nation is Kevin Dellinger.

2: Principal Chief A.D. Ellis served two consecutive terms of office.

3.2: The Creek Council House, located in downtown Okmulgee, was purchased for $3.2 million from the city of Okmulgee in 2010.

4: Ellis, one of four candidates, is elected by a majority vote to the Office of Principal Chief, in the 2003 Primary Election.

$10.15: The minimum hourly wage for employees is set at $10.15, in October 2010. The federal minimum wage is currently at $7.25 an hour.

11: 11 new departments were established during his administration including: Tourism and Recreation, TANF, Tribal Transit and the Veterans Affairs Program.

18: Ellis' administration saw the completion of 18 new buildings across the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and on its campus headquarters.

20: In December 2011, Ellis ends a 20-year political career with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

21: Principal Chief candidate George Tiger is defeated by Ellis in the 2007 General election by 21 votes. Ellis began his second and last term of office in January 2008.

50/50: A July 2011 MCN Supreme Court order reaffirms the MCN District Court's Order of Permanent Injunctive relief on the controversial 50/50 split of the communities revenue sharing from their casinos with the nation.

195-105: The Tulsa Riverspirit casino was built on a $195 million loan. As of December 2011, the tribe only owes $XX million

202: In July 2011, Ellis' State of the Nation address stated the Nation had more than $202 million in the permanent fund. In 2004, the permanent fund had $58 million.

53,471: Number of enrolled citizens in January 2004, Ellis' first month in office as Principal Chief.

72,740: Number of enrolled citizens in December 2011 as Ellis leaves office.

Ellis: (continued) Now, some people, I could understand, but these little people, they're just working in the warehouses. Got caught up in the sting,--true--they took the money, they didn't have to. And, they lied about calling me, saying I was expecting it. That just kind of enticed them to go ahead and take the money. But, nobody ever called me and if they had of called me I would have told them don't dare take nothing. There's somebody setting you up.

Q. Do you think there are other tribal targets of the FBI?

Ellis: Yeah, I do. What I do know, I can't talk about.

Q. How would you describe the state of the nation when you took over as Principal Chief?

Ellis: It was in good shape. It just naturally evolves in better shape every year....The Permanent Fund was $57 million when I came in. Now it's over $200 million. There are results that were created by everybody.

Q. Was the location for the River Spirit Casino the best choice?

Ellis: Yes. I admit I battled the Council a long time. It took us seven years to build it when it was a two-year project.

Q. You have 'butted heads' with the Council several times. How would you describe that relationship?

Ellis: You know, it was eight years with a lot of them. I thought it would be smooth, I thought we'd really go places. But, as soon as you move into an Executive position, it immediately changed. It's different. Council members look after council members. And, of course, we naturally look after the Executive Branch. There's just something that changes, when you become Chief. There are probably opponents of mine that say this administration hasn't done anything. It's unbelievable what we've done, (see Ellis Administration accomplishment list). This administration, in eight years, has accomplished more than any administration in history.

Q. That's been a stormy relationship. Is it a personality thing, or were you that far distant on the issues?

Ellis: It was very political. It was political with the communities. We've got some strong communities out there. They were very political.

They got a lot of these council members elected. When I tackled the communities, I tackled the council right along with it. Very unpopular, still unpopular. I couldn't do anything, I had to do it in court. People complained about all the lawsuits. Well, most of these were constitutional issues, violations of the constitution. If you look at the court cases, we've had 13, I won all 13 of them. I wouldn't have tackled it if I didn't know I was right about the constitution.

Q. There were critical issues. Among them were the casinos. You've got people who think they [the casinos] belong to them and their communities. Then, you've got the federal law saying, no, you can't do this. What do you think?

Ellis: I don't know what was promised in this campaign, I didn't get involved in any of it. But, they're not going to get their 50/50 split back. They're not going to get any money back because the money has already been spent on the budget. So, if anybody promised them that, they're going to be angry with them when they find it don't happen. I want to make a point about constitutional issues and lawsuits that anybody can understand. This month [November] I've vetoed about 10 bills. The council appropriated money we don't have. It's there to read, anybody can see it. It says on the bill when money becomes available. If you look at the tribal constitution there's a paragraph in there that says it's unlawful to appropriate money when you don't have it.

Q. Your appropriations message listed a number of bill you vetoed. Have you been hearing from those people?

COUNCIL OAK BALLROOM
SALON C

Ellis: Yeah, I hear from a lot of them. I try not to veto any funeral bills and stuff like that. That's hard to do, but when there are children involved, it's really hard to veto any of them when they're for Christmas or something. But, that's where you start making the big decisions, tough decisions. If it's against the law, I don't care what it's for, I'll have to veto it. It's just a hard decision to make.

Q. As you look back over these eight years, are there things that you wish you would have done different?

Ellis: I wish there would have been a different way to tackle these communities, but I didn't see any other way. Eufaula, for instance, I had lots of friends down there. I ate dinner a hundred times in the Elderly Nutrition down there. When I stopped this situation in the communities and people didn't get to go on trips or anything anymore, I had to look at the other side of the story. The people on the west side of the county that never got to go anywhere. My older sister, 90 years old, would go to Twin Hills. The other communities would come over there and brag to her, saying, 'You all don't get to go nowhere, we just got back from Las Vegas.' That's not right for the people to do.

Q. Like, 'why should we be paying for someone to go to Dollywood?'

Ellis: Yes. So many people that don't get to do anything. My job is to treat all people alike. All my decisions I've made—and you can see it in the record—I said this belongs to all Creek people, not just a few and they still hate me The people I'm trying to work for-you never see them. But you feel like you're on their side. I get letters telling me they appreciate what I've done. Especially kids saying, 'If you hadn't passed that bill, we wouldn't have got to go to the Grand Canyon.' I did turn our 4-H Club down one time, when they were going to Washington, D.C. I just made that decision because I knew that this is just a very few kids. There are a lot of kids out there that don't get to go.

I got to be thickskinned here in the Chief's Office. When I was in the Second Chief's Office, Perry Beaver would give me all the complaints. That was some job I had.

Q. Where do you see us now? Native America is becoming more sophisticated, are we keeping pace with the changes in the world and does that demand a change of thinking in the people who run the government.

Ellis: I think culture is very important, tradition is very important, but, I agree with the new Speaker-elect that's coming on, that we need to have a strong presence in D.C., and the state capital. We need to have lobbyists in D.C. I don't think the tribal leader should be in D.C. , all the time. I think there's plenty of work here at home.

Q. How do you see your relations with the state? Has Okla. been in an antagonistic positions or are they more willing to talk, make deals, work together? Or are they wanting to tell you what to do?

Ellis: In the last eight years we've got a real good relationship with the Legislature and Governor (Brad) Henry, he was easy to work with. We came away with a couple of good compacts, decent compacts, but failed here because of politics.

Q. Will there be a time when the state puts more energy into recognizing the tribes?

Presented To
Wilbur (Chebon) Gouge
Founding Member of the
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Challenge Bowl
For Dedication, Inspiration,
Cultural Wisdom and
For love of the Children.
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
November 2007

Ellis: This is probably controversial, too, but I think that it depends on the political party that's in there. Our National Council appropriates money for lots of politicians in the state. Once you do that, they will help us with about anything. I think we need to do more of that, if we can afford it.

Q. How would you see us fitting in with relations with other tribal governments? I understand that the appropriation has been made to pay dues to NCAI (the National Congress of American Indians); where do we fit in on the national scene?

Ellis: Not as good as we should be. I was happy when Jefferson Keel was elected President, because he's part of an Oklahoma tribe. Before that, it was all geared to reservation tribes. I was out there a couple of years ago and the reservation tribes tried to take over the Reservation Roads Program away from us totally in Okla. Luckily we had enough votes to stop it.

Q. Where do you want to see this tribe go in the future?

Ellis: Well, I would hope that this tribe gets more business and industry in this area. Health care. We've got to develop more hospitals and clinics in our nation. We've got to create industry, jobs. I think we're probably tapped out as far as casinos. That revenue will go, expect that one of these days, that revenue will go down. Our tobacco is going way down and I expect it will disappear one of these days.

But, there's got to be some industry out there that will produce a lot of revenue I wouldn't care if we had a big factory out there that would produce no revenue, if it would provide 300 jobs.

Q. What would you like to see you legacy be?

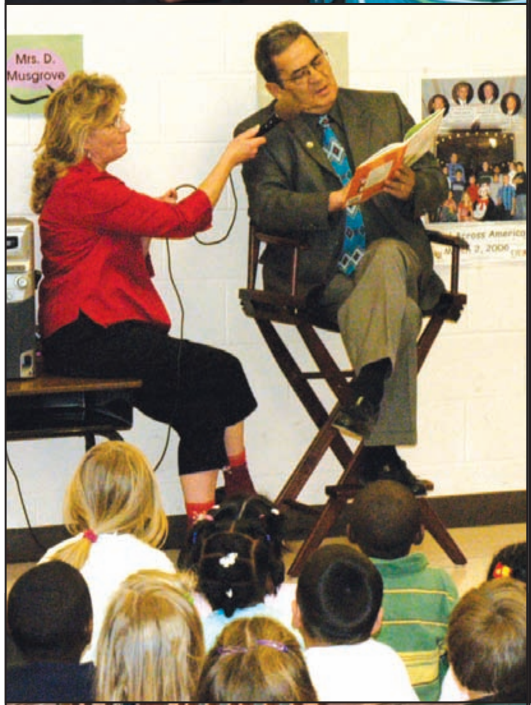
Ellis: Doing what was right, honestly, I worked all my life as an employee, not as a boss. I've always worked for a boss and I try to treat my people that way. I can't really be one of them, because I might have to terminate them or something. But, you can treat them like you want to be treated. I think I have.

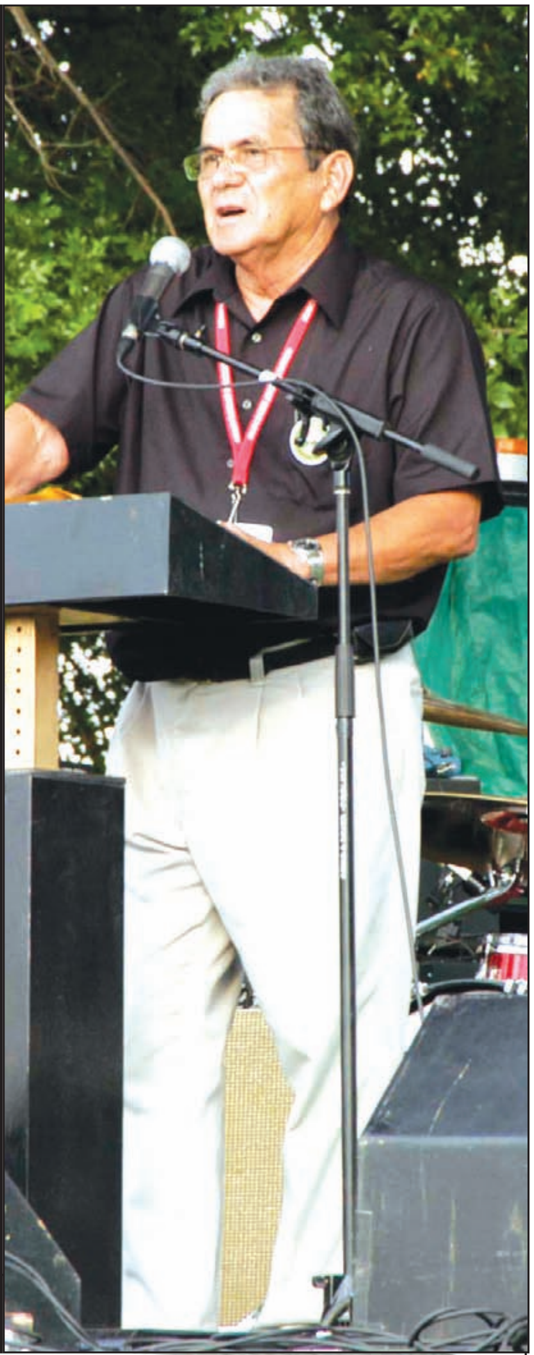
Q. Any final thoughts?

Ellis: When you're Principal Chief, you're by yourself. Your family's not with you. It's hard on family. Of course, my kids are all grown. My wife is around. I'd go all over the United States, she'd be left by herself. When somebody criticized me, they'd criticize her. They need to be recognized, too. Other than that, I just say, "I did my best.' Sometimes it wasn't good enough, sometimes it was. I've got no regrets on what I did.

IMPEACH
ELLIS!

PROCLAMATION


Mrs. D.
Musgrove



GOVERNMEN

Christmas joy

• MCN offices bring holiday delight to those in need

Lee Longhorn
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — Several Muscogee (Creek) Nation departments and programs are ensuring that those in need receive toys and coats this winter.

The MCN Children and Family Services administration, the MCN Reintegration program and the Citizenship Office each hosted and supported a coat and toy drive for needy children and families this December.

In its fourth year, the Reintegration program collected over 100 toys, during their annual toy drive. This year, the program started a coat drive and brought in almost 100 coats, according to the Reintegration Program office.

Donations of $732 for the toy drive and $100 for the coat drive were also collected.

A benefit stomp dance was held on Dec. 10 entitled "Vnokeckv Omecicen" or "Because of Love." The event was put on to help collect toys for the Children and Family Services Angel Tree.

According to a press release, the event was able to collect 186 toys and 85 coats to give to the CFSA Angel Tree.

This year, the CFSA Angel Tree had 120 "angels" on it and 114 were returned, the CFSA office said.

The Citizenship office "would like to thank the volunteers from the departments: Tourism and Recreation, Personnel and Children and Family Services for their time and effort helping at the event."

Citizenship would also like to give a special "mvto" to every person and ceremonial ground that was able to come out and participate at the stomp dance, according to their press release.

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees and citizens pitched in for a toy drive cosponsored by the offices of Citizenship and Tourism and Recreation during the month of December.

Tobacco Prevention Program creates citizen survey

Media Release
MCN Tobacco Prevention Program

OKMULGEE — Tobacco Prevention Program to Survey Citizens for Tobacco Use

The Tobacco Prevention Program will conduct an Adult Tobacco Survey specific to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Beginning in December, citizens will receive letters from the program that ask them to participate in the survey process.

Interested participants may return a postage-paid postcard and will be contacted beginning in January to schedule a face-to face interview. The interviews will last approximately 30 minutes and survey participants will be compensated for their time with a $10 gift card.

The information collected will hopefully indicate whether or not smoking rates have declined among citizens as they have in the rest of the state and country. The Adult Tobacco Survey was last conducted in 2005 in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The survey also asks about attitudes about tobacco and is given to both non-tobacco users and tobacco users.

The Tobacco Prevention Program is recruiting interviewers to conduct the survey. Interviewers will be paid per survey completed. Requirements include a background check, drug screen, and reliable transportation.

For more information contact Debra Isham, Program Manager, Arlene Davis, Program Specialist, or Esther Yargee, Administrative Clerk, at 1-855-623-1189.

MCN Telephony adds information hot line

Media Release
MCN Telephony

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation recently instated a 24-hour information hot line. This service will be utilized in case of an emergency, during inclement weather or complex closings. The hot line may also be utilized for program information in addition to print resources available at the complex.

The messages shared on the hot line will also be available to callers on hold.

Users within the complex should dial ext. 2733 (Creek) and those outside should dial (918) 549-2733 (Creek).

For more information, contact Ginny Dunn at (918) 732-7787.

B7 CULTURE

Coming and Going in
Indian Country

B8 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Social Services Field 2012 Schedule

C1 NATION

Muscogee
leaders
represented at
White House
Conference

C2 HISTORY

And Still the Waters
Run: *How May I Assist
You?*

C3 SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Stone rises as
Golden Sun

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within five years of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT 918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

On the way back home I made it up to Santa Fe to perform music with keyboard player Robert Muller at the Santa Fe Winter Indian Market.

Many Mvskoke citizens were there at the market, selling their art. Kenneth Johnson had a booth where he demonstrated his remarkable art of jewelry making. Mary E. Irene and Linda Irene were there with their beautiful art.

A few weeks before, I was part of an honoring stomp dance led by George Coser, Jr., for the induction of Mvskoke citizen, the jazz tenor saxophone player Jim Pepper into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame in Tulsa.

Pepper started the first jazz fusion band, he helped set off the world music movement with Choctaw/African American jazz trumpet player Don Cherry, and Pepper had a hit song with Witchi Tai To. That's not all. He was one of the first to blend jazz with tribal music.

Jim's father was of the Kaw people of Okla. Jim's sister Suzy Pepper Henry attended with her husband Steve Pepper. Also watch for young Cherokee alto sax genius Sharel Cassity. She received a commendation. She's from Okla. I saw her performing at the Blue Note in New York City, and she "blew me away," so to speak.

Congratulations to all of us. When one person succeeds, we all succeed.

In honor of being at home, one of my songs, "Goin Home"

Last dance and the night is almost over--
One last round under the starry sky.
We're all going home someway, somehow when it's over.
Hey e yah, hey e yay, aye e yah aye e yay
If you've found love in the circle then hold onto it, not too tight.
If you have to let love go then let it go. Keep on dancing.
"I don't care if you're married sixteen times
I'll get you yet."
Goin home, goin home

"I'm from Oklahoma got no one to call mine."
"A love supreme, a love supreme—"
Everybody wants a love supreme.

"When the dance is over sweetheart, take me home in your one-eyed Ford."

But first, we have to stop and pick up Grandma, my uncle, my aunties…and then there's all my kids…
Goin home, goin home, goin home

It's time to go home
Be kind to all you meet along the way
Mvto mvto to everybody
For all the good times
Good night, sleep tight.
Goin home, goin home
Goin home

Drive safely, or better yet, don't drive at all.
Don't forget: hold somebody's hand through the dark.
Goin home, goin home

Kul-ku-ce cv-na-kē, hv-ya-yi-ca-res,
Kul-ku-ce cv-na-kē, hv-ya-yi-ca-res,
Kul-ku-ce cv-na-kē, hv-ya-yi-ca-res,
Kul-ke-kvs, kul-ke-kvs, kul-ke-kvs

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Reintegration Program Coat Drive

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program is hosting their first annual coat drive and still taking donations of new or gently used coats. Donations can be dropped off at the MCN Reintegration program or arrangements can be made to have them picked up.

For more information, please contact Becky Bilingsly at (800) 259-1059 or (918) 652-2676.

MCN complex closing for holiday season

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal complex offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 26 - 27 in recognition of the holiday season.

Angel Tree Benefit Raffle

OKMULGEE — The MCN Children and Family Services division is conducting a raffle for and XBOX 360 with Kinect. Tickets are 2 for $1. Drawing to be held Jan. 6. Winner does not have to be present. Call 918-732-7869.

Grocery Bingo

OKMULGEE —The Twin Hills Indian Community Senior Citizens will be having a grocery bingo on Jan. 6 at 7:00 p.m. $10 for 10 games, Specials available. The Community Center is located at the intersections of Hwy 16 and Hwy 52

Community Annual Audits and Summaries Due

OKMULGEE —Muscogee (Creek) Nation deadline is Jan. 28, 2012.

Each community shall submit a copy of its annual summary or auditors's report to the National Council and Principal Chief with ten (10) days after its completion and shall make a copy available to chartered community members for review during Community meetings or normal hours of business at the community office of Community Center.

The Community shall provide copies to its members upon request.

For more information, contact MCN Community Research and Development at (918) 732-7963.

Veterans' Photo Exhibit

OKMULGEE — The MCN Museum and Cultural Center, and Veterans Affairs Services Office, in collaboration with the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian are presenting "Native Words, Native Warriors."

The photos will be on display at the Muscogee Veterans Building until Feb. 29. 2012.

YMCA Discount for Muscogee Employees

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and employees will receive a discount for each new membership created. You must present your MCN employee I.D. card or Citizen card at the time of enrollment with the YMCA and you are guaranteed to save between $20 to $35 on the day you join.

A variety of eight memberships are offered to accommodate the needs of members. The Okmulgee County Family YMCA offers aerobics for young adults, adults and seniors; tumbling classes for children ages three to nine; youth soccer for children ages three to ten; youth basketball for children ages three to twelve personal training for adults and yoga, Zumba, karate, weights, toning are more.

For any questions or tours of the facility, call (918) 756-6677.

Jim Thorpe Native American Games Announced

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma capital city will be the site of the 2012 Jim Thorpe Native American Games, June 10-17, 2012.

The games, which will feature more that 4,000 Native athletes, will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Jim Thorpe's record setting performance in the 1912 Olympic Games in Sweden.

The Games will include 11 competitive sports including baseball, softball, basketball, tennis, stickball, golf, track and field, cross country, wrestling, beach volleyball and martial arts.

Participants must have a CDIB card. Entry forms can be downloaded from the Jim Thorpe Native American Games website at www.jimthorpegames.com

Entries will be accepted now. Proceeds will benefit the Jim Thorpe Association's Bright Path Youth Program and the Native American Diabetes Awareness and Prevention program.

For more information, contact Annetta Abbott at (405) 208-9253.

Mvskoke Language CDs

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Language Program has a 9-CD set containing over 600 Mvskoke words and phrases for $15. An additional CD containing all of the audio including the written Mvskoke words and phrases is available for $5.

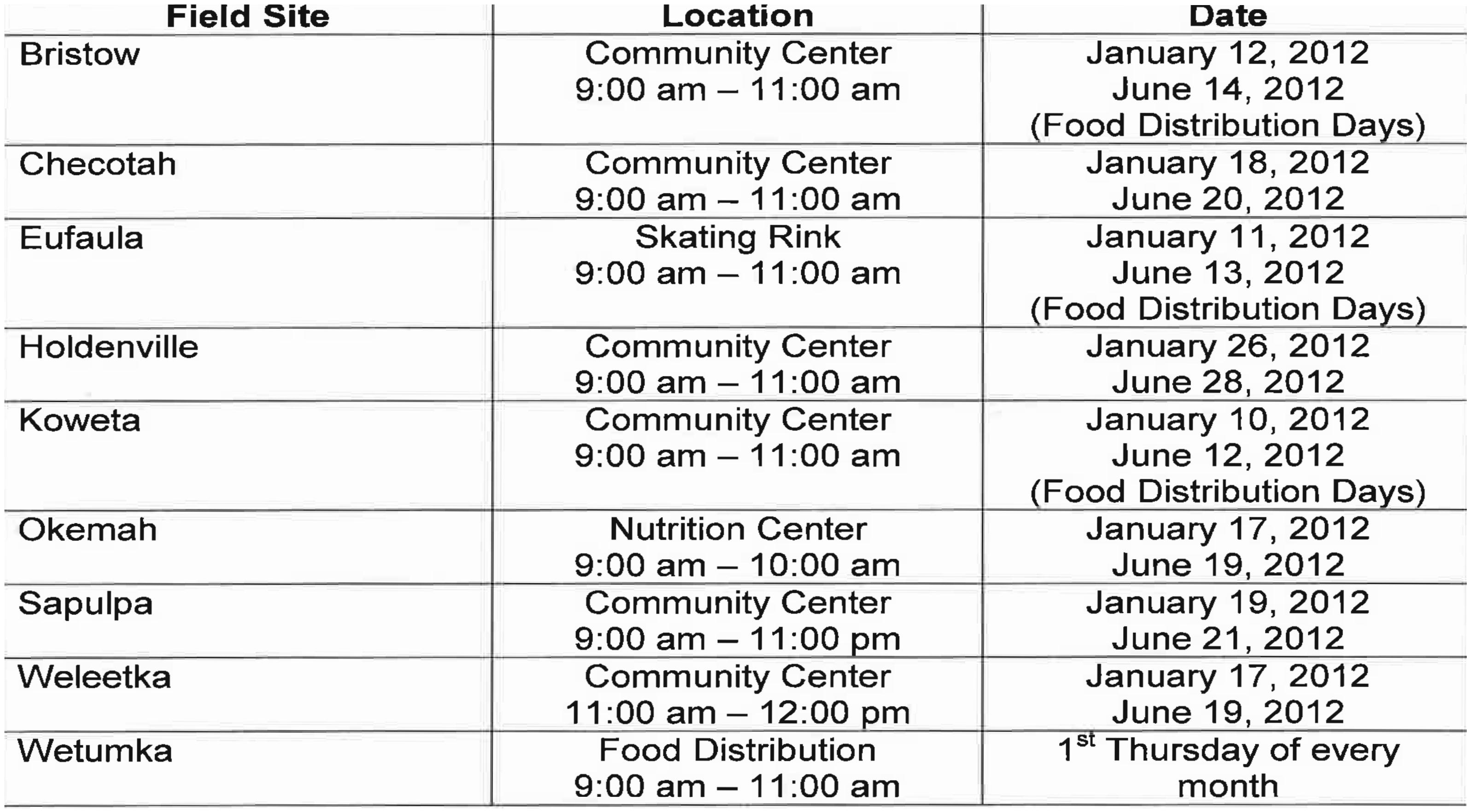
For more information or to order a set, please call (918) 732-7724.

MCN Communications now booking senior portraits

OKMULGEE — The MCN Photography Department offers quality photos for citizens at an affordable price. Senior pictures and family portraits are available in-studio or on-location throughout the Creek Nation jurisdictional boundaries.

For more information contact Mallory Bible at (918) 732-7639.

2012 MCN Social Services Field Schedule



Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 12, 2012 June 14, 2012 (Food Distribution Days)
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 18, 2012 June 20, 2012
Eufaula	Skating Rink 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 11, 2012 June 13, 2012 (Food Distribution Days)
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 26, 2012 June 28, 2012
Koweta	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	January 10, 2012 June 12, 2012 (Food Distribution Days)
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	January 17, 2012 June 19, 2012
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	January 19, 2012 June 21, 2012
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	January 17, 2012 June 19, 2012
Wetumka	Food Distribution 9:00 am – 11:00 am	1st Thursday of every month

Muscogee leaders represented at White House Tribal Nations Conference

Gary Fife
MNN Editorial Assistant

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Barack Obama announced several new policy changes and an enhanced consultation process during the third White House Tribal Nations Conference the first week of December.

MNN/*Gary Fife*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief-elect George Tiger is pictured above with Assistant Sec. for Indian Affairs Larry Ecohawk. U.S. President Barack Obama spoke to tribal leaders from indigenous nation at the third annual conference held in Washington, D.C.

His administration also unveiled several new policy initiatives designed to address issues in areas of major importance. In his remarks, Obama said, “I told you that I would bring tribal leaders to Washington to reflect, to develop an agenda that reflects your hopes and your concerns. Now, for the third year in a row, we have kept that promise. I told you that when I was president, we wouldn’t just pay lip service to the idea of consultation. And today, we’re holding every Cabinet agency responsible for working together with Indian tribes.”

Over 500 tribal leaders attended the national conference.

Federal officials announced that the U.S. government is working to strengthen the government-to-government relationship with tribal governments with close consultations.

“Under this policy, consultation will be an open, transparent and deliberative process,” said Interior Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Larry Echohawk. “Forging a strong role for American Indian and Alaska Native tribes at all stages in the government’s decision-making process will benefit Indian Country and federal policy for generations to come.”

The new policy outlines detailed requirements and guidelines for Interior officials and managers to follow to ensure they are using the best practices and most innovative methods to achieve meaningful consultation with tribes.

The Departments of Interior, Energy, and Transportation made announcements outlining new efforts to work with tribes and make programs and funds more accessible. Obama also issued a new Executive Order to improve Native educational opportunities and strengthen tribal colleges and universities. The Federal Emergency Management Administration also declared it would make it possible for tribal governments to request federal disaster aid without going through state government.

Another major action promoted by Obama was a request to Congress to recognize the power of tribes to prosecute perpetrators of domestic violence, Indian or non-Indian. In the wake of the Carcieri decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, the administration has asked Congress to restore the Secretary of the Interior’s authority to take land into trust for federally recognized Indian tribes.

The president also gained passage of the Tribal Law and Order Act, making Indian Country a safer place to live. Additionally, the Obama administration was able to permanently authorize the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

During the week, the president and his top advisors met with tribal leaders from different regions of the country. In these closed sessions, the tribes were able to voice their concerns directly to decision makers on their top priorities for federal actions. The assembled tribal leaders were pleased to hear the reports of the Cabinet leaders and the announcements on consultation, education, job creation, energy development and transportation.

Principal Chief-elect George Tiger represented the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. For Tiger, the national session showed him that the White House was going to work with tribal governments to meet the needs of Native peoples, “I believe one of the major things that came out of it was, this current administration has always reached out to tribal governments and to Indian communities. I think that will continue. I know that many of the comments I’ve heard was that this is the first president that actually has been real aggressive in reaching out to elected officials of tribal governments. I think it was a good summit. There was a lot of discussion about economic development on reservations and Indian communities. A lot of talk about strengthening our communities with various resources, everything from agricultural to housing. A lot of conversation about how partnerships needed to be formed with, not only the Indian communities, but all communities. It was a great session. I enjoyed it.”

With the announcements of several major policy initiatives at the same time, the question of politics arose. Tiger does not discount some Obama campaign strategy being mixed with meeting tribal needs, “I think it was a little bit of both, probably because of the national political season that’s coming up in the next year. Probably reaffirming some of the promises that’s been made in the past. When I basically asked the some questions of my colleagues that are in leadership roles, they agreed that there is a little bit of cautious optimism as it has been in the past. But, more so, I they feel like President Obama certainly has exhibited that he is willing to help and work with tribal governments. So, I think that it is a little bit of both, but I think that this president, there’s a little more trust and confidence in what he says.”

And Still the Waters Run: *"How may I assist you?"*

George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — The year was 1999. My oldest son was a student at St. John's College in Annapolis, Md. I flew there from Calif., for an extended weekend visit. We planned a daytime drive along the Blue Mountain range of Va.

I had a secret agenda. I wanted to visit an old community cemetery in Lynchburg, where a relative was buried. Lt. Col. Francis Marion Windes was actually from Apple Grove, Ala. Never well after the Civil War, he has sought medical treatment in the East. When it failed to help, he boarded a train for his beloved home and wife.

He collapsed though and was taken off the train at Lynchburg. Though no one knew him, his history of service in the Confederate Army was well known.

When he died, the townspeople gave him a grand funeral and had a nice monolith stone placed over him. His own extended family, their fortunes destroyed by the war, were unable to come to his service.

When I told my son Spencer of my plan, he was not happy (I have often taken him to remote cemeteries). It was my rental car though, so he quickly settled down. In Lynchburg we arrived at the huge cemetery. There are 25,000 burials there with 2,000 of them Confederate soldiers. Our task looked quite hopeless.

At the gate, a pretty lady dressed in "Gone With the Wind" clothing greeted us and asked if we were attending the Rose Garden Club event. It was a Tuesday afternoon.

I said "No, we are looking for a family stone," and described it from an old photo I had been given. I didn't mention a name. Suddenly she stared at me and said, "You all don't mean Col. Windes do you?" I answered, "Why yes," wondering how in the world she knew that. She was speechless for a minute, but then directed us down a gravel road and said we should walk through a rock arch, that the Civil War burials were there and that we should look for an older gentleman dressed in the honored gray uniform of the South.

We did just that and as we approached him, I noted he stood near what appeared to be the stone we were looking for. He smiled and said, "Col. Francis M. Windes at your service. How may I assist you?"

We shook hands and I said, "You, Sir, are not being entirely honest with us." I took from my briefcase, an old photograph of the real Francis Marion Windes and identified it as such to the old man. He smiled, looked at my photo and replied, "Dang, he would be more handsome than I am."

He went on to explain that the Rose Garden committee had simply chosen a name out of 2,000 known soldiers to honor at their annual visit to the cemetery (famed for its rose bushes). While we talked with him, an older lady dressed all in black (represented the widow) arrived to lay flowers on our ancestor's grave. The lady who had first talked with us at the gate appeared and said she was so shocked when we first inquired about Lt. Col. Windes; her gift of speech left. A volunteer docent at the cemetery, she ventured that strange things often happen there, but nothing like our visit on a Tuesday afternoon, looking for a relative they had randomly chosen to honor on that very day.

My son was practically jumping up and down during all of this. He filmed it via a camcorder. He couldn't believe a series of events could collide in such a cosmic way.

I smiled all the way back to Annapolis. I still occasioning smile at the friendly greeting, "How may I assist you?" If the old gentleman but knew what resolve he brought me, to continue to honor and write about my kindred dead.

He handed me a poem written about Col. Windes' time damaged stone, entitled, "Col. Windes is fading away" and said it had been written by a beloved educator in their town.

After an article about this event was published in a magazine, The Church News, I was contacted by that retired teacher. He was the bishop of the Lynchburg LDS Church.

He had happened to come upon the stone while researching his own kin on a rather nasty afternoon years earlier. Seeking shelter from rain in his car, he wrote his poignant poem about a stone raised to someone he wasn't even related to.

How may this story tie to the Muscogee (Creek), one may ask? Genealogy research is encouraged by our tribe. You need look no further than the "cemetery project" of the Cultural Preservation Office to know the important of marking the graves of our chiefs and citizens, maintaining these sacred locations. Sometimes an obelisk can be put up with all the known names of loved ones buried at a location.

Mvto for reading my stories…

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com

Stone rises as Arkansas Tech Golden Sun

MNN/*Darren DeLaune*

Cheyanne Stone signs a letter of intent to play for the Arkansas Tech University's Golden Sun softball team amongst support from family, coaches and friends.

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

JENKS — On Friday Nov. 11, 2011 third baseman, Cheyanne Stone of the Jenks Lady Trojans signed a letter of intent to continue her career in fast-pitch softball for next season. Stone will be a member of the Golden Sun's softball team at Arkansas Tech University where she will continue to play at third base.

Arkansas Tech University is an NCAA Division II school located in Russellville, Ark.

Stone received offers from other colleges such as Austin Peay, University of North Texas and local colleges like Oklahoma State University and University of Central Oklahoma.

"I have other offers from bigger schools to play for their team," Stone said. "I love that the school is very small and very down to earth. To me, Tech is more like home and the coaches there are not worried about how much they are being paid. They are out there helping you to become a better player and all of us to be a better team."

Arkansas Tech Head Softball Coach Gidget Pambianchi had this to say about Stone. "We are really excited for what Cheyanne is going to be bringing here to our team. She is a really good hitter and her defense is just as good. She has an outgoing personality, which helps our team on defense and can help her to be one of our leaders. She can make a big impact for us come next season."

Stone is coming off a stellar senior season with the Lady Trojans finishing 36-4, making it to the state tournament, and winning numerous awards. Stone is the power hitter for her team with 42 RBIs (runs batted in), eight homeruns, and a .420 batting average for the season. When not playing with her high school team she played with the Oklahoma Tuff-E-Nuff Gold team for the summer.

When she is not playing softball, Stone teaches the kindergarten and first grade within Jenks Elementary School. She also enjoys working with the elderly at one of the local nursing homes. As for down time, she does reserve a few hours for spending time with family and friends. Stone considers herself a down-home, country girl.

Stone plans to study Elementary Education at Arkansas Tech.

Stone is Creek, Choctaw, and Cherokee. Her parents are Tim and Leslie Stone. Her grandparents are Felix and Gloria Haynes. Her great-grandparents are the late Jay and Annie Haynes. She is of the Fuswv (Bird) Clan and her Tribal Town is Hickory Ground.

AARP Oklahoma launches Indian Elder Navigator

Media Release
American Association of Retired People

OKMULGEE — AARP Oklahoma has announced the launch of the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Navigator – a single point of entry website for Indian elder services that can be accessed at: www.aarp.org/okindiannavigator

"We hope that this new website will be a place where Indian elders from any Oklahoma Indian Tribe can go to find the service or resource that best fits their needs," said AARP Executive Council Member and former Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe John Edwards. "We envision it as a 'living room' of information for tribal elders."

The AARP Indian Elder Navigator is designed to be a resource center where tribes can list their contact information and resources on such topics as housing, transportation and health care. At its launch, information on tribal nutrition and food commodity programs were posted on the site.

AARP and AARP Foundation has launched an effort called Drive to End Hunger to raise awareness of senior hunger and enroll more seniors in the Supplemental Food Nutrition Program (SNAP). Edwards said AARP Oklahoma is expanding Drive to End Hunger to Indian country by posting Indian nutrition sites and food commodity distribution programs on the Indian Elder Navigator.

Going forward, AARP officials say they hope to work directly with tribal leaders and program directors from all federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma to add new and updated information to the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Navigator. Program directors with questions about adding their program information can contact Craig Davis at cedavis@aarp.org

The association will also make presentations to Indian elder groups and tribal councils in the upcoming year.

At a luncheon in Oklahoma City, AARP debuted a new training video explaining the association's work with Oklahoma Indian tribes that includes the Indian Elder Navigator, Drive to End Hunger and the 2012 AARP Indian Elder Honors program.

To request a copy of the video, schedule a presentation to a tribal group or add information to the Indian Navigator, please email: ok@aarp.org

For more information on AARP Oklahoma or the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Navigator, visit: www.aarp.org/ok

AARP SM

The honor of your presence is requested to attend and participate in the Inauguration of:

George Phillip Tiger

As Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Roger Barnett

As Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

and

National Council Representatives

Of the 17th Session, Muscogee (Creek) National Council

At 10 a.m.

Saturday, January 7, 2012

in the Multipurpose Facility on the campus of Muscogee (Creek) Nation's
Claude A. Cox Omniplex
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

All Muscogee (Creek) citizens are invited to attend the celebration and festivities